

# CITY NEWS

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Vol. 16, No. 41

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## Minorities worry the most about HIV and AIDS

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

— When faced with a list of important health issues, New Jerseyans named cancer as the one that concerned them most, followed closely by health care cost and access and AIDS, according to the results of a poll conducted for the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.

The poll was conducted in May by the Eagleton Institute's Center for Public Interest Polling at Rutgers University. About 800 New Jersey residents were surveyed as part of a department-led effort to set New Jersey's health goals for 2010.

The Department of Health and Senior Services is working with the departments of Education, Human Services, Environmental Protection, and Law and Public Safety to create Healthy New Jersey 2010, which updates the state's year 2000 health goals.

In developing the document, the department is actively seeking the views of the public and a wide range of health groups statewide.

The Eagleton poll asked residents to choose the state's top health issue from a list of 12. Twenty-four percent chose cancer, while 16 percent said access to health care and the ability to pay for it was the most important issue. Fifteen percent named AIDS and HIV. Infant deaths and injury were chosen by one percent or fewer of those surveyed.

The remaining issues fell between the two groups, in descending order: mental and drug abuse, heart disease, workweek and environmental hazards, teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, vaccine-preventable infectious disease, and racial and ethnic differences in health status.

Opinions varied among demographic groups. Minorities were much more likely than whites to name AIDS/HIV as their top concern.

"As we set the goals that will guide us into the next century, it's important to check in with public opinion on the state's most pressing health problems," said Health and Senior Services Commissioner Christine Crant. "This poll gives us a snapshot of what health concerns people have in their everyday lives."

Urban residents, young adults, and parents of children under 18 were also more likely to choose AIDS/HIV as most important.

Whites were more likely than minority residents to be concerned about cancer and health care cost and access. And Hispanics were more likely than whites or blacks to choose sexually transmitted diseases as their top health concern.

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The department plans to issue a Draft Health New Jersey 2010 plan later this year. The public will be able to review and comment on the report. The final report will be issued next spring.

The original Healthy New Jersey was developed in 1991 in response to Healthy People 2000, the federal government's report defining the nation's goals for health promotion and disease prevention.

New Jersey's report contained 67 specific goals in 11 public health areas. New Jersey appears to be on track for achieving a number of these goals by the year 2000, including reducing the overall infant death rate, reducing teen birth rates, reducing the number of deaths due to colorectal cancer, and reducing heart disease deaths among minorities and in the total population.

Others are unlikely to be achieved, including reducing smoking rates among high school students, reducing the percentage of low-birth weight babies, and reducing the number of people who lack health insurance.

The Healthy New Jersey reports are used by health organizations, community groups, state agencies and others to identify areas where services are needed, and to plan programs that can help New Jersey reach its health goals. Improving the health of all New Jerseyans is not the job of one department alone. It will take the combined efforts of government at all levels, community groups, health care providers and individuals too, Commissioner Crant said.

The poll is available on the department's web site, [www.state.nj.us/health](http://www.state.nj.us/health).

## Black Troopers end silence

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

— The end of a state gag order on state police and corrections officers may well expose state officials to damaging new criticism, as the state's long-awaited but disappointing report on racism in the State Police is now exposed to new testimony about illegal practices of New Jersey's most powerful law enforcement agency.

The development promises to effectively reverse what offends many blacks in law enforcement about the long-awaited report on racism in the State Police. It holds no one accountable for the blatant failures of the police force leadership to prevent discrimination against minority motorists and Troopers.

"They don't want us to speak, because we can put names and faces and stories to the problem that will blow that report right to where it belongs, in the toilet," one Trooper said, anonymously.

Imposed by the State Police and other law enforcement agencies, the prohibition against speaking in the press has applied to police officers and correction officers in New Jersey for too long.

Despite its removal, the leader of a group of minority troopers told City News, troopers were advised by their lawyers not to be quoted by name. Secretary of State DeForest Soaries had stated that the report would clarify that an outsider is needed. But the final report falls short of admitting that, it says the well-known black Trooper.

"On the one hand you say the lead cop has failed the state and on the other, you say those who have risen to the ranks under that system are the best qualified to lead us to reform," he said. "There could be no worse a slap in the face to us, the minority Troopers, many of whose careers have been destroyed by this system."

Besides the Black Ministers' Council of New Jersey, many Democratic



legislators and even the broad-based Coalition of Religious Leaders has been calling for an outsider to lead the division, replacing Col. Andre Parker, a black reformer from Illinois.

But Republican officials have made the appointment difficult by refusing to support job security for the incoming superintendent. That includes Senate President Donald DiFrancesco, who would become governor if Whitman was a Senate seat. He has refused to agree to keep any appointment once he takes office.

Attorney General John Farmer Jr. has maintained that he is "interested in finding the best qualified candidate, whether that candidate is within or outside the organization."

Minority troopers have lamented that in spite of the 161-page report of the State Police Review Team (set up last February to investigate state police racism), Attorney General John Farmer Jr. approved 104 promotions. Of the 33 new lieutenants, 32 were white.

Decades after the integration of the New Jersey State Police, says the



Atlantic City Police (top) block the Atlantic City Expressway. Reverend Al Sharpton (bottom right) sits on the Atlantic City Expressway with Stanton Crew's mother prior to his arrest. Stanton Crew's mother (bottom left) arrested and handcuffed at the AC Expressway.

review team's report, "accomplishing the goal of a diverse and respectful workplace still remains elusive."

The seven team, spurred by the shooting last year of a valet of minority youth, citizen complaints of discriminatory treatment and could testimony of

## New money for a dozen Shore projects

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

— Funding requests submitted by Shore area Assemblyman Thomas Smith will help fund more than \$400,000 of projects and social services in Monmouth County.

The biggest winner of the funding measure, approved on June 28 by Gov. Christie Whitman, will be the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program of the Monmouth County Prosecutor (\$80,000).

Others include the Monmouth County Business Incubator (\$60,000), Sisters of Mercy Building Fund in Asbury Park, and The Mercy Center and St. Stephen's Childcare Center, all in Asbury Park and each to receive \$50,000.

The proposed Childcare Development Center gets a huge boost from the \$50,000, enabling it to help a massive population of children living nearby the St. Stevens AME Zion Church, which is developing the childcare center.

"Based on the location of the church and childcare center to the great number of children residing in private homes as well as both public and private multi-family housing, the center will certainly be an added blessing to parents looking for safe, clean, affordable childcare for their children," Smith wrote to the congregation of the church.

"Members of the St. Stevens AME Zion Church are very fortunate to have leadership and staff that are striving to raise the quality of life in the Greater Asbury Park/Neptune communities through endeavors such as this childcare center," said Smith, the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly.

The Neptune Township Soccer Association is allocated about \$30,000 and the Westside Community Development Center in Asbury Park, \$20,000.

## Energy deregulation Now you have a choice of rates

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

— "As we set the goals that will guide us into the next century, it's important to check in with public opinion on the state's most pressing health problems," said Health and Senior Services Commissioner Christine Crant. "This poll gives us a snapshot of what health concerns people have in their everyday lives."

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Electric rates will drop automatically in about two weeks. Another 5-percent rollback follows next year as the energy transition tax is phased out. Consumers can save even more by shopping around in the new competitive marketplace.

Aside from newspaper and Web ads and electronic media, informative brochures are to be mailed to every New Jersey household and business.

PSE&G's old virtual monopoly of New Jersey's electric competition on Aug. 1, challenged not only by GPU Energy but also relative upstart New Jersey Energy options will include Connect Power Delivery, New Jersey Resources, NJU (Elizabethown Gas), Rockland Electric and South Jersey Gas Company. Even Hess Corp., one of the biggest U.S. oil companies, vows to offer aggressively priced electric and natural gas service.

But the objective of New Jersey Energy Choice, the BPU's multi-media campaign launched July 7, "is not to convince customers to switch. The objective is to make clear to consumers that they now have a choice in how they can use this new freedom to achieve their best savings deal for energy."



The BPU kicks off a 3-year consumer education campaign to inform consumers about energy choices that will be open to them on Aug. 1.

PSE&G customers who stay put are promised a mandatory rate reduction of 5 percent on Aug. 1, rising to 7 percent on Jan. 1, and 9 percent in a year. Energy tax will be reduced by up to 5 percent, and by 2003, the reductions will total 18.9 percent. GPU customers' reductions will follow a similar plan, reduced up to 16 percent by 2003.

Every consumer gets a choice of natural gas suppliers by next Jan. 1, but it carries no automatic reductions. The campaign's multi-cultural approach aims for the broadest possible audience, noted Fred Abbate, chairman of the Utility Education Committee, which is comprised of all seven utilities. "If New Jersey Energy Choice is successful, everybody wins."

## Fourth of July '99 in Newark

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

— Games, food and music enlivened the "Let's Celebrate Newark Fourth of July Festival." Children, top, gather around for colorful face paintings by an artist. A man, bottom, tries to choose from the barbecued specialties.



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## Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

**WEST ORANGE** — The Essex County and 4-H Fair offers a wide array of food, games, and entertainment. It takes place at the South Mountain Arena through July 18. Call (973) 298-3651 for time and information.

**NEW YORK** — The Museum of the City of New York hosts a discussion on the life of actor-activist Paul Robeson. Call (212) 834-1672 for time and information.

**NEWARK** — The Newark Museum hosts "It's a Summer Reading Challenge" program at the library's Children's Room. Call (973) 733-7798 for time and information.

**CHANDLER** — Union County College will hold registration for the fall semester. 6:30 a.m. (908) 709-7503.

**JERSEY CITY** — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a seminar on financing your college education. 7 p.m. (201) 200-2425.

**HOWELL** — The Monmouth County Park System hosts a golf clinic at the Howell Park Golf Course through July 17. 9 a.m. (732) 842-4000.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

**NEWARK** — The Newark Museum presents jazz in the Garden Concert Series. Call (973) 596-6500 for more information.

**CARE MAY** — The Cape May County 4-H Fair returns for another year of entertainment, food, games, and many more. It takes place at 4-H Fair Grounds through July 17. Call (609) 465-5115 for time and information.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

**CLIFFSIDE PARK** — SingleFaces, Inc. hosts a singles function at Palisadium. 9 p.m. (732) 482-2408.

**ATLANTIC CITY** — 10,000 Mentors sponsors the first statewide Youth Empowerment Summit at the New Atlantic City Convention Center. 11 a.m. (609) 242-1142.

**WILMINGTON** — The Fifth Annual Doo Wop Music Festival offers a celebration of best in doo wop music of the past. It takes place at Holly Beach Station Mall through July 17. Call (609) 729-8818 for time and information.

**BEVERLY** — Matarazzo Farms hosts the annual Native American Indian Powwow through July 18. 11 a.m. (908) 475-3816.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

**SADDLE BROOK** — SingleFaces, Inc. hosts a singles function at Saddle Brook Marriott. 9 p.m. (732) 462-2405.

**NEWARK** — The New Jersey Historical Society presents cooking demonstration on Puerto Rican Food. 1 p.m. (973) 596-6500.

**EAST ORANGE** — 100 Black Men of New Jersey, Inc. hosts its annual Village Gathering at Hampton Terrace. 10 a.m. Call (973) 678-6522 for information and location.

**ENGLEWOOD** — The John Harms Arts Center presents legendary doo-wop groups The Drifters and The Platters. 8 p.m. (201) 567-3600.

MONDAY, JULY 19

**JERSEY CITY** — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a seminar on financing your college education. 7 p.m. (201) 200-2425.

**MONTCLAIR** — Montclair State University's Summer Camp for Academically Gifted Youth offers a slate of camp programs for students in grade four to ten. Call (973) 655-4333 for time and information.

**WEST ORANGE** — Children's Specialized Hospital of Mountsinde hosts its Tenth Annual Golf Classic at the Montclair Golf Club.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

**NEWARK** — The Newark Museum presents a tribute to singer Jane Austin with special guest Julianne Baird. 12-15 p.m. (973) 596-6500.

**FREEHOLD** — The Monmouth County Park System presents the 25th Annual Monmouth County Fair through July 25. Call (732) 942-4000 for time and information.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

**READINGTON** — GPU Energy presents The 17th Annual Quick Creek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning takes place at Solberg Airport. 1 p.m. (201) 445-7826.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

**ATLANTIC CITY** — The Abscon Lighthouse presents its first Art Show and Sale. 11 a.m. (609) 441-9272.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

**NEW YORK** — The Morris-Jumel Mansion hosts a discussion on religion and democracy of the early United States. 2 p.m. (212) 923-8008.

## Prudential honors students in journalism workshop



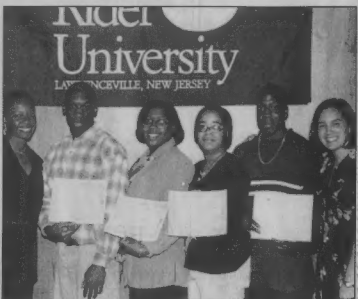
Prudential hosted a special luncheon yesterday at its Newark headquarters to honor the 22 high school juniors and seniors who are participating in Rider University's Hugh N. Boyd Minority Journalism Workshop (MJW) this summer. Pictured with the students are (l-r) Dr. Eida Berio, dean of student affairs at NJIT; Michael Rodriguez, founder and president of CIMA; Ken Gibson, former Mayor of Newark; Mimi Yee, Vice president of Multicultural Business Development at Prudential; and Jason Jett, program director of MJW.

## Smith named Runnells employee of the month



**UNION** — Michelle Smith (left) a secretary in the clinic area of Runnells Specialized Hospital was recently named Union County government's Employee of the Month. Smith, a county employee at Runnells for sixteen years is holding the certificate of appreciation that she received from the county manager. Presenting her with a Resolution from the county's Board of Chosen Freeholders is Freeholder Chairman Nicholas P. Scutari.

## Rider students receive Paul Sheer Book Awards



Students of Rider University were on hand to receive the Paul Sheer Book Award for their purchase of books and academic achievement. Carrie Ramos (right) associate director of Rider University's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), and Devon Singh-Barrett, EOP counselor, congratulate (l-r) Denard Coleman, a junior business major; Monika Galloway, junior computer information systems major; Shares Day of Trenton, junior, sociology major and Najia Carter, business/communications major. Sheer, Rider professor of English emeritus presides the annual award.

## Nursing student receives honorary membership



**JERSEY CITY** — Helena Groce (right) of West Orange, a May graduate of New Jersey City University received a bachelor of nursing in science degree, was awarded honorary membership in the New Jersey National League for Nursing at a senior reception held on campus. Gloria Bossmann, NJCU professor of nursing, presented the award to Ms. Groce.

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— Paul Robeson

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## National Briefs

### CO-DIRECTOR OF NEW MAJORITY COUNCIL APPOINTED

WASHINGTON — Republican National Committee Co-Chairman, Patricia Harris welcomes Renee Amore who will join Judy Adams as Co-Director of the New Majority Council. Amore, who has been an active Republican both on a state and national level, will be working on spreading the message to minorities within our country and recruiting them to be active participants in the GOP. Amore will be joining Judy Chapa who is in charge of Hispanic Affairs in the Office of the Co-Chairman and will be the other Co-Director of the MMC.

### ELAM NOMINATED AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL

WASHINGTON — The President announced today his intention to nominate Harriet L. Elam to be U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal.

Ms. Harriet L. Elam, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, and a current resident of Arlington, Virginia, is a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor. She is currently Acting Deputy Director and Counselor of the United States Information Agency Her career in the Foreign Service includes assignments as Counselor for Presidents in Public Affairs, Cultural Attaché at the American Embassy in Athens, and American Affairs Attaché in Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus. Her earlier assignments included the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, the President's Representative Office of the White House, and Career Counselor for U.S. Foreign Service personnel. She also served in France, Senegal, and the Ivory Coast, and Turkey.

### AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HONORS 11 OUTSTANDING WOMEN

WASHINGTON — The African American Women's Institute (AAWI) in the Howard University Department of Sociology recently honored 11 outstanding black women with the 1999 Distinguished Service and Leadership Award.

The international conference, devoted to the presentation of scholarly work by black educators, administrators and students, recognized:

- Mary Frances Berry, chairperson, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights; Mary Schmitt, U.S. District Judge, District of Columbia; Elizabeth Catlett, artist; Carmelo Cosby, philanthropist;
- Kateleene Cornwell, educator; Elita A. Johnson, provost, Spelman College; Gabrielle Kirk McDonald, chief justice, International War Crimes Tribunal; Constance Baker Motley, Federal District Court Judge/Congress; Brown Board of Education; Eleanor Holmes Norton, District of Columbia Delegate; Jessie Carney Smith, JCI 90th Anniversary Librarian; Anna Wendland, curator 20th Century Art Museum of Fine Arts-Houston and associate professor, Texas Southern University.

Founded in 1993, the AAWI is the focal point for cross-cultural studies of women of color. The Institute seeks to build collaborations with women's programs at local universities and community organizations.

### NAACP HOLDS ITS 90TH ANNUAL CONVENTION IN NEW YORK

BALTIMORE — The NAACP held its 90th Annual Convention July 10-15 in New York City. The theme, "NAACP: 90 Years of Making Democracy Work," commemorates the association's historic founding in New York in 1909.

"It's a momentous occasion for those of us who are committed to justice and equity for people of color over the past 90 years, the NAACP has played a significant role in making America work for all its citizens," said NAACP President and CEO Kwame M. Williams.

An estimated 14,000 delegates and visitors, representing the NAACP's 2,200 branches are expected to attend the six-day convention. Invited guests included President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Rep. J.C. Watts (R-GA), and James Clyburn (D-SC), chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus. Call 410-358-6900.

# U.S. Commerce has Y2K victory

WASHINGTON — U.S. Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue today hailed approval of critical Y2K legislation as "a watershed achievement for business at the American economy."

"This important legislation will support a critical part of our economy," said Donohue.

"Millions of small businesses, communities, hospitals, and high tech entrepreneurs can now focus on fixing any remaining Y2K problems,

instead of worrying about a group of trial lawyers looking to get rich off Y2K."

Donohue praised the bipartisan congressional Y2K leadership, including Sens. John McCain (R-Ariz.), Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), and Reps. Tom Davis (R-Va.), Jim Moran (R-Va.), Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.), Chris Cox (R-Calif.), Cal Dooley (D-Calif.) David Dreier (R-Calif.), and Bud Cramer (D-Ala.).

The Y2K Act will encourage potential defendants to fix Y2K prob-

lems quickly before a lawsuit is filed, while assuring that those with actual damages can recover fully; allow many defendants to be liable only for their portion of the fault; and limit punitive damages for small businesses. The legislation would also cover state and local governments and non-profit organizations.

"This is a huge victory that comes in the face of fierce opposition from trial lawyers," Donohue added. "The Y2K bill will allow businesses to put their money into fixing the problem rather than spend it paying lawyers to

deal with frivolous litigation. As an example, he cited case filed yesterday in Jacksonville, Fla. against Atlanta-based Peachtree Software, Inc. over Y2K.

The Chamber, which represents both potential Y2K plaintiffs and defendants, co-chairs the Year 2000 Coalition, a large, multi-industry organization of business interests supporting bills that would deal with the Y2K litigation problem. More than 200 influential organizations from every state have signed onto the Chamber's lobbying effort.

## A new president, a new struggle for South Africa

By Richard Muhammad

(NPN) — The Republic of South Africa marked an important milestone with recent elections and the inauguration of Thabo Mbeki as its new president. With the ascension of Mbeki, Nelson Mandela, an icon of the liberation struggle, has stepped down and a new era began.

Mandela, jailed for 27 years by the brutal apartheid regime, provided a symbol of personal and national reconciliation by forgiving and reaching out to the White minority that oppressed and plundered the country. For the past five years, he has been an example of Black willingness to forgive Whites for centuries of a deadly domination.

Mandela's call for reconciliation brought accolades from across the globe. Mbeki, however, faces the difficult task of bringing the masses of South Africans closer to the beloved freedom fighter, in which men, women and children died.

His job is more challenging given White intolerance and talk of fear of Black domination and protection of minority rights. Mbeki faces unemployment, a shortage of affordable housing, an AIDS crisis, high crime and other critical issues. To meet these challenges, even with economic growth, there will have to be a greater willingness to share South Africa's wealth and land and to accept tasks necessary to help the poor. Mbeki's administration has talked about the need to grow the economy from the ground up, but even the best economic times won't make up for the 30-year head start that Whites have.

The elections of the first all-race elections in 1994 has been replaced with a desire for the masses to see a change in their lives. African National Congress (ANC) officials with the heads of thousands of new homes built, improved education and improved

in things like running water in rural areas, they have started that job. But it's a big one and South Africa needs a hand to get it done.

Those who applied Mandela's conciliatory words and actions should be just as willing to support Mbeki. True peace can only come with justice and equity. Or as Mbeki said, "The full meaning of liberation will not be realized until our people are freed both from oppression and from the dehumanizing legacy of deprivation we inherited from our past."

If the ANC can take the position that South Africa belongs to all who live there — regardless of color — than the White minority must understand that wanton criticism of the Mbeki government and trying to hold on to their privilege can't last.

Young Whites must also understand that as Blacks paid a supreme price in the past, small things—goals and affirmative action-type laws—are needed to lead the nation.

Help should also come from Blacks in America, who fought to end apartheid. What is needed now is not so much protests as investments and paying attention to U.S. policy toward South Africa and all of the Motherland. South Africa's first all-race elections just five years in the past, the ANC deserves a chance to make things work. The country still has a racial divide as demonstrated in videotaped incidents of White policemen beating Black and colored civilians and the shootings of Blacks in rural areas by farmers.

Sacrifices in South Africa have to be evenly distributed as possible. Otherwise a volatile mix of poverty, class differences and race could cause it to explode.

Richard Muhammad, a Chicago-based author and photographer.

## Community Reinvestment Act under attack from Congress

WASHINGTON — After decades of progress in the nation's pursuit of equal opportunity, the Congress may take a giant step backwards by gutting the Community Reinvestment Act. The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights is working with mayors, community activists and civic leaders to convince lawmakers that investing in communities is good for neighborhoods, and good for the nation.

Many inner-city neighborhoods and rural communities are better places today because banks and thrifts have paid attention to them. Financial institutions have helped revitalize neighborhoods by investing in new day-care centers and grocery stores, while granting home mortgages to low and moderate income families. In rural areas, too, the family farmer has found it easier to obtain loans from local banks, funds that allow small farmers to stay in business after a poor growing season.

Indeed, the CRA, a law enacted back in 1977, has encouraged financial institutions to lend more than \$1 trillion in the communities where they are located. How? Before banks and thrifts can win approval from regulators to expand they must achieve at least a satisfactory community lending record. The process has worked well for communities and bankers, who have profited from loans in areas they feared would be "hot."

Yet, some politicians in Washington, particularly Sen. Phil Gramm, (R-TX) the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, is trying to change the CRA in ways that would make it dramatically less effective. In fact, the Senate has passed a

version of the Financial Modernization Act of 1999 that permits banks to ignore lending records to nonetheless affiliate with securities and insurance firms, a union that will likely be very profitable. The legislation reduces the role that community organizations' public comments can play in rating the lending records of financial institutions, while exempting banks with less than \$100 million in assets from CRA requirements, eliminating 76 percent of the nation's rural banks.

The House version of the same bill maintains CRA's current role in encouraging community lending. But later this summer, the House and Senate members will meet to hammer out a final bill that will be sent to the White House. President Clinton has vowed to veto any bill that weakens the CRA, but the powerful banking, securities and insurance industries are pushing hard for it to be enacted.

The impact of the CRA has been enormous for people of color. Between 1993 and 1997, home mortgage loans to African Americans increased by 62 percent. In the same time frame, mortgage loans increased by 58 percent to Hispanics, by 30 percent to Asian Americans, and by 25 percent to Native Americans.

Dr. Dorothy I. Height, Chairperson of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and President Elect of the National Council on Negro Women, said recently that adequate housing is a cornerstone for success in our neighborhoods. "The link between fair housing practice and the opportunity for struggling families to lift themselves into the middle class is undeniable," she said at a press conference, where Civil Rights leaders voiced support for the CRA.

## Youth advocate awarded 1999 Kraft Community Service Award

NEW YORK — Wilbur H. Inniss, a longtime youth and community advocate, has been selected as the recipient of the 1999 Kraft Community Service Awards. Currently in its second year, the program was established by Kraft Foods to honor local heroes who have improved the quality of life in their communities by promoting education, fighting hunger or helping to resolve a crisis.

A resident of Staten Island for more than 30 years, Inniss has been involved in community service projects across the city. He is a former troop leader for the Boy Scouts of America and chairman of the Junior Sea Knights of America Guard Unit. A 30-year-old, non-for-profit intervention organization that encourages at-risk youth to stay in school and away from drugs and alcohol. In addition, he has served on boards of family planning groups and the Staten Island Music Workshop for 15 years.

Inniss is also considered the "guardian angel" of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Washington Heights. Prior to joining the church, he volunteered his expertise as a safety engineer to repair its fire alarm system and bring its other systems up to code with New York City Fire and Building Department codes. Later, as a member of the congregation, Inniss hired, at his own expense, African American men with substance abuse problems to help refurbish the church. He also raised funds for a computer training and after-school program which taught adults and children how to use word processors and access information from the Internet.

"It is in the community where the dialogue of tolerance, compassion, generosity and understanding begins," Inniss said. "To be a part of that conversation you have to be involved."

A panel of judges, appointed by Kraft Foods, Inc., chose Inniss as one of five award recipients from 150 nominees, a number that included individuals or groups for the positive changes their efforts have made in their local communities. Judges considered the originality and creativity of the actions taken by the candidates and the overall impact on the community.

"There is nothing more inspiring than when a person with vision and purpose puts his efforts to work for the benefit of others," said Jai Raham, Kraft's director of ethnic marketing and external relations. Today we honor Wilbur Inniss for his generosity of spirit and for confirming for all of us our individual power to affect meaningful change."

In 1998, Kraft donated more than \$13 million in grants and \$15 million in food to nonprofit organizations.



Wilbur Inniss

## Support for two black law schools grows

By Susan Miller

MIAMI — Showing a force of unity, a group of lawmakers from both political parties agreed to petition their colleagues for support of law schools for two Florida universities.

Florida A & M University and Florida International University (FIU) have gotten some powerful support in their quest to have law schools.

"We're working together for one common goal, and that's to make sure that at the end of the day, both FIU and FAMU will both have a law school so students can attend," said State Senator Darryl L. Jones, who is an attorney and one of the chief supporters of the proposal.

"This is an historical adventure we're embarking on and our momentum will not be slowed," said Mario Diaz-Balart, the organizer of a recent press event.

News conferences were held simultaneously at the South campus of FIU and FAMU's auditorium in Tallahassee. Legislators stressed the importance of having a law school to provide access to financially challenged students who cannot afford higher tuition rates from private universities.

Of the 5,103 available seats in law schools in the law schools of the state, only 1,777 or 34.8 percent are located at public institutions.

The University of Florida and Florida State University are the only two public institutions in the state that have law schools. "Our children should not have to leave to attend a law university because we cannot give them the opportunity," said Rep. Fredrick Williams.

FAMU had a law school, but it was closed in 1968 because of a lack of funding. That law school was created because — at the time — Florida's institutions of higher learning were segregated.

Virgil Hawkins and some other Black students protested the state's denial of their admission to law school and FAMU's law school was created. The law school never received a funding increase throughout its 17-year history and ultimately closed.

"We've very few Black lawyers in the state and with the continuation of my school's programs, we can get back to the business of educating our young attorneys," said At Woodard, a FAMU alumni and longtime supporter of the recreation of the law school there.

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# BUSINESS CALENDAR

## THURSDAY, JULY 15

**PLAINFIELD** — United National Bank holds a workshop for youth interested in business at United National Bank Community Education Center, 10 a.m. (908) 753-7364

**UNION** — The Union County Economic Development Corporation hosts a seminar on creating economic opportunity in the downtown area. Call (908) 527-1116 for time and information.

## FRIDAY, JULY 16

**PALMAYRA** — The National Minority Supplier Development Council (NSM) hosts a seminar on financing your college education. 5:30 p.m. (201) 200-3426

## MONDAY, JULY 19

**JERSEY CITY** — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a seminar on financing your college education. 5:30 p.m. (201) 200-3426

## TUESDAY, JULY 20

**CRANFORD** — Union County College offers a course in printing. 7 p.m. (908) 703-7600

## WEDNESDAY JULY 21

**BRIDGEWATER** — The New Jersey Technology Council and Human Resources Peer Task presents a seminar and dinner on creating business. Bridgewater Manor 5 p.m. (908) 452-1010

## MONDAY, JULY 26

**CRANFORD** — Union County College offers a course in how to obtain financial wealth through public speaking. 7 p.m. (908) 703-7600

**JERSEY CITY** — The Women's Center of New Jersey City University (NJCU) hosts a seminar on how to build money with a few dollars with quiet speaker Peter Kules of First Investors. 7:30 p.m. (201) 200-3129

**CRANFORD** — Union County College offers a course on how to make your resume work for you. 7 p.m. (908) 703-7600

# Money Matters

## HUD study concludes America's inner cities hold tremendous economic promise

WASHINGTON — President Clinton recently released a Department of Housing and Urban Development report that found that America's inner city neighborhoods — with \$331 billion in potential retail purchasing power — hold major economic potential for retail business growth.

The report, titled "New Markets: The Untapped Retail Buying Power In America's Inner Cities," concludes that retailers can find major profit-making opportunities in low- and moderate-income inner city neighborhoods. The report calls these areas "undiscovered territories for many businesses."

This new report shows that when businesses invest in their nation's inner cities they can increase profits and benefit communities at the same time," Clinton said. "By working in partnership with business, we can make our strong national economy even stronger and create new jobs and new opportunity for millions of Americans."

## Women Business Owners welcomes 25 new Women's Business Centers

WASHINGTON — SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez recently welcomed 25 new women's business centers to the system of dozens of currently funded centers, along with SBA district office technical representatives who are part of federal OWB's liaison with the centers.

"This program is one of the SBA's best investments for helping women entrepreneurs succeed," Alvarez said on June 24 at the annual post-award briefing & training conference. "In fact, it's one of the federal government's best investments."

The theme of the conference was "A beacon for women in business. Lighting the way to success." "I like that image," said Alvarez. "That each of you is a beacon to women business owners, and that you are lighting the way to success. And you are doing it in unique and innovative ways."

Among the new sites, the EXCEL Program run by the NAWBO, the New Jersey chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners, will serve women throughout the state, but concentrate its efforts in labor-surplus areas. NAWBO members will volunteer as trainers for this program through the organization's 15 New Jersey chapters.

ship with business, we can make our strong national economy even stronger and create new jobs and new opportunity for millions of Americans."

The two major findings of the HUD report are:

"America's inner city neighborhoods possess enormous retail purchasing power — estimated at \$331 billion last year, or one-third of the \$1.1 trillion total for the central cities in which those neighborhoods are located. The report suggests that businesses not yet operating in inner cities should not ignore that large domestic market."

"Despite their huge buying power, many of America's inner city communities are 'under-retailed,' with sales that fall significantly short of residents' retail purchasing power. The report

makes clear that not only is there a large inner city consumer market worth competing for, but there is also room for expansion of that market."

The report finds that many inner city neighborhoods suffer from "out shopping." These neighborhoods simply have too few retail stores to meet the demand and tap the buying power of their own residents.

As a result, many shoppers make a large number of their purchases in suburban malls, by mail order, and increasingly over the Internet.

The HUD study highlights two gaps — capital and information — that hold back the growth of inner city economies. The capital gap deprives inner city businesses of the investment dollars they need to set up shop and expand. The information gap deprives

businesses of vital market information they need to establish retail stores that can succeed by meeting the shopping needs of inner city residents.

Clinton is proposing tax incentives and investment tools to make it more attractive for corporate America to seek opportunities in inner cities. Clinton's proposals build on Clinton-Gore Administration initiatives that seek to remove remaining barriers to business development in new markets. These barriers include access to capital and technical expertise, as well as better market information.

Clinton's plan was modeled after a proposal by Rev. Jesse Jackson's Wall Street Project. "After months of working with the White House in moving this agenda forward," Jackson said, "We must now fight for the passage of

the president's New Markets Initiative in Congress. This proposal could spur billions of dollars in investment in America's underserved areas." HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo said.

"Increased business investment can transform many inner cities from places left behind by the new economy into places leading the way to economic success. This investment will bring shoppers, billions of dollars in consumer spending, and new jobs to urban America."

Clinton began a New Markets tour last week to visit six economically distressed urban and rural areas that represent untapped markets: Annapolis and Hazzard, Kentucky, Clarkdale, Miss.; East St. Louis, Ill.; Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, S.D.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Los Angeles and Anaheim, Calif.

## Saving junk can foul up financial planning



Dale G. Caldwell

If you're like most people, you probably are a "pack rat," a person who saves lots of items they really do use. Unfortunately, I have found that the urge to save things you don't need can get in the way of the successful implementation of your personal financial plan.

I have been tempted to save papers, clothes and other things that I don't really need. For a long time I saved mail that was three or more years old, clothes that I had not even looked at in two years and papers that I used in college. I was afraid that the second I threw these away, I would need them for some important task. Ironically, I never took the time to inventory what I had saved, so in the event that I needed something I didn't know whether I had it.

How does this impact financial planning? I have learned the following from experience:

"It is much more time consuming to throw accumulated junk away than it is if you discard it as soon as you receive it. The most precious commodity in life is time. Throw junk away

today so you don't have to waste time later."

"99 percent of the things that you thought you might need, you have no need for. You therefore should throw away anything that you are not 100 percent confident that you will need at a later date."

"It is essential that you organize anything that you save. If you are saving papers you should put them in folders sorted alphabetically in a filing cabinet. If you are saving clothes, you may want to sort them based on the season and whether they are casual or formal wear. If you do not organize what you have, you might as well give or throw it away — it's of no use if you cannot find it."

"If you have a solid personal financial plan, you will understand the relative importance of the papers that you receive on a daily basis. To maximize the effectiveness of your financial plan, you must organize all relevant financial information that you receive. The person who means to minimize their net worth while maximizing their net worth will analyze this information and

decide if it will help them achieve their goals. Review your financial junk mail as soon as you receive it to decide if it will help you achieve your financial goals."

"You can generate significant tax savings by contributing your old clothes to a charity. This is not only a wonderful way to help the less fortunate, you can reduce your taxes by thousands by claiming these contributions. Even better, you'll clear some closet space."

"Pay your bills as soon as possible. Too often, people are afraid of opening their bills immediately and set these bills aside, meaning to get to them later. They pile up and get lost with the junk mail. Frequently, people forget to pay these bills and end up paying late fees. Always open your bills immediately. I recommend that you write a check for each bill as soon as you open it."

Do not be ashamed if you have accumulated papers or clothes you do not need. Begin today to throw away all unnecessary papers and give away clothes that you have not worn in 12 months.

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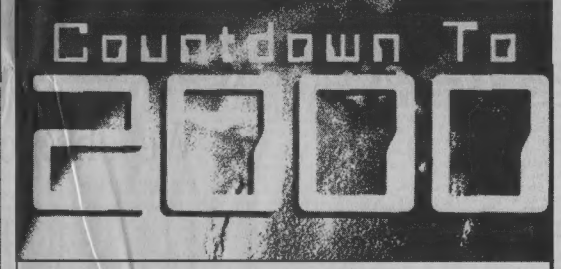
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# Religion

July 14 — July 20, 1999

## RELIGION CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

ATLANTIC HIGHLAND — St. Paul's Baptist Church will hold bible study and prayer meeting. (732) 572-0321.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

NEWARK — Bethel Pentecostal House of Prayer presents the Singing Kings of Joy and Fred McGriff and His Singers at Mt. Calvary Church of God and Christ. 7 p.m. (973) 654-3883.

PLAINFIELD — Rose of Sharon Community Church's Voice of Praise Choir will be celebrating 35 years with a celebration concert. 8 p.m. (908) 753-2383.

SUNDAY, JULY 18

RED BANK — Shreveport Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church presents its annual African Heritage Day. Call (732) 747-1720 for time and information.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

NEWARK — The Essex County Park System presents the "Gospel Parade of Stars" concert at Woodlands Park, part of Essex County Park System's Free Summer Concert Series. 3 p.m. (973) 269-3500.

### Children First

## Raising our kids to conquer in life

(NPA) — My friend, Kelli, and I were reminiscing about a time more than 10 years ago when the world was at our feet. I had a job as a salesclerk at Palms Royal Department Store, a boyfriend with a car, and an academic and social transcript that ensured later success in life. Although my family was working class, my mother taught me that if I put in the effort I could have what I wanted, my way.

On the contrary, my homegirl, Kelli, was raised to be a princess. With long, silky jet-black hair and an angelic smile that resembled a brown china doll, she was the prettiest devils on earth at our coming out ball. Kelli went to the all-girls St. Vincent Academy in Shreveport, looked around the city in her father's shiny Cadillac.

We were two girls, taking different routes to the same place. Then we discovered that we were ill-equipped to handle life when it didn't quite go our way. For me, that bit of reality hit when I got fired from Palms Royal my senior year of high school.

My aunt managed a Burger King and offered me a job there. It was at this time my mother discovered a characteristic in me that until then had lain pretty much dormant: a crippling self-importance. I told my mother that I was too good to work at Burger King. She rightfully cursed me to my face and made me take the job. Although Burger King paid more, I hated every minute I worked there. I was too warped to understand the pride in earning an honest dollar and the independence it fosters.

The two of us had gone to Howard University while I worked two full-time jobs over summers to cover my rent. Kelli's parents picked up her college tab and gave her a new car for good measure. In essence, Kelli's parents prepared her to reign without offering instructions on how to conquer.

We knew we were both fortunate to have parents who encouraged us to have dreams of ourselves, but somewhere along the line we missed the fact that they had sacrificed. They told us to always speak correctly, look our listeners in the eyes, and like royalty always walk with our backs straight and heads up. We were prepared to go out and direct our destiny.

Kelli and I are slowly coming to understand that sometimes we must do the unbearable. And, like those great conquerors before us, we must go into the world vulnerable but prepared to turn down grace and dignity all the obstacles that lie before us.

*Yolanda Young is an attorney, writer and motivational speaker.*

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## Gospel celebration comes to Rose of Sharon



PLAINFIELD — Rose of Sharon Community Church Voices Of Praise Choir Presents 35 Years Of God's Excellence In Ministry Anniversary Concert On Saturday, July 17, 1999, 8 p.m. at the Rose of Sharon Community Church, 825 West 7th Street, Plainfield, NJ. Guests appearing are Ke'Nobe, The Solid Rock Ensemble of New York & New Jersey, The Ros Vocals of Praise Choir, The Ros Young Adult Choir, The Ros Men's Choir And more. Come out and hear a joyful noise unto the Lord.

### POSITIVELY BLACK

## Expand the parameters of your life

By Juniors Ricardo Stanton

"No matter how full the river, it still wants to grow." Congolese proverb

Our experience in the West has been one of relentless negation, oppression and suppression of our genetic possibilities and potential unless the ruling society determined our individual or collective gifts, talents, aptitudes and proclivities to be non-threatening, profitable or beneficial to them. As persons who were unlovely and unwelcomingly imposed to this hemisphere have been subjected to almost four centuries of egregiously abusive, exploitative and dehumanizing treatment. We were put in the untenable position of never being allowed to be ourselves, to grow or develop "as fully functioning, human beings. It is the nature of all living things to grow. We are imbued with an animating life force that upon birth enables us to think, be aware of ourselves and our environment, have locomotion, create and consciously fashion our world.

Our African ancestors created magnificent civilizations by admonishing the people to "know thyself," and the priests provided assistance in their self-discovery and self-actualization within a communal social milieu.

However, our enslaved ancestors weren't allowed the luxury of contemplation or self-actualization. Their role was to clear land, plant crops, drain swamps, build roads, maintain the mills, cook, clean, breed and satisfy the insatiably perverse sexual pleasures of Europeans. Africans in America were not destined for personal development and actualization but dehumanization and degradation. For them, growth meant becoming stronger despite being poorly fed and inadequately clothed, yet somehow increasing the wealth of the slave owners and their economic bottom line. Our ancestors were stripped of

their ethnic identities, elaborate psycho-spiritual orientation and the cultural moorings that defined their world and their place in it. In its place was foisted the insidious and all pervasive doctrine of African inferiority.

All living things seek to expand and develop their innate potentiality. Even while fettered in the most hellish form of slavery the world has ever seen, our ancestors struggled to maintain their humanity and thrive as a people. The human spirit is truly indomitable. Those who were unlovely and unwelcomingly imposed to this hemisphere have been subjected to almost four centuries of egregiously abusive, exploitative and dehumanizing treatment. We were put in the untenable position of never being allowed to be ourselves, to grow or develop "as fully functioning, human beings. It is the nature of all living things to grow. We are imbued with an animating life force that upon birth enables us to think, be aware of ourselves and our environment, have locomotion, create and consciously fashion our world.

The only constant I feel is change. It is our nature to grow. Look at pictures or home videos of yourself from several years ago. Do you see any difference? Change is natural. We are supposed to look different, think differently and behave differently than we did when we didn't know who we were or what our potential was. We are more than physical beings. We are mental and emotional entities with an indwelling animating spirit that animates us with the creative spirit that governs the universe. God is always talking to us, prompting and inspiring us to be our truest and noblest selves.

Until recently, conditions in this culture prevented us from thinking as Africans, forming our own world view and metaphysical paradigm. We are fortunate that we have access to information that can enable us to examine and experiment with authentic African spir-

itual traditions, philosophies and cosmologies. We no longer have to depend on the people who oppressed our substance, direction, guidance or validation. We can determine our destiny and fate. One recurring theme in African cultures and philosophy is that of destiny. It was the responsibility of the family and community to assist each member to fulfill their personal and collective destiny.

These concepts are in opposition to Western thoughts which say essentially

that we are all here without rhyme or reason. But you are far more powerful and resourceful than you realize. You are innately equipped to accomplish great things. We simply lack the understanding that our life experiences and circumstances are designed to enable and enable us to demonstrate our genius and test our mettle. The goal of life is self-discovery, personal growth and self-actualization. Anything less is an affront to the creator our ancestors, ourselves and our progeny.

## Black people respond to targeted marketing campaigns

According to a report by Packaged Facts\*, black people are highly receptive to financial services that are marketed to them. Example: Deluxe Corporation, by creating a check series commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King, exceeded their market projections by 15%.

\*Packaged Facts is a product of FND/SVP Research, Public Affairs Group

## 2 great ways to reach the African-American Business & Professional Community



## Minority Business Journal

The Minority Business Journal is a monthly publication focusing on minority and women business enterprise in New Jersey and New York City. MBJ regularly features the accomplishments of minority and women business, information concerning maintaining and expanding businesses, opportunities available for minority entrepreneurs, a calendar of events, editorial and commentary - issues facing minority businesses. MBJ offers an excellent forum for classified and display advertising and special business and professional card directories. MBJ provides an important communication link in the information network vital to the growth and economic development of minority communities.

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The Minority Business-to-Business Directory is a directory of minority- and woman-owned business and companies committed to doing business with minorities. The directory network minority businesses, identifies minority and woman businesses with whom public and private sector businesses and agencies can contract for products and services, and exposes a growing base of minority businesses to the general consumer. The directory facilitates listing and advertising as well as provides a resource guide for minority and woman entrepreneurs and potential entrepreneurs to help facilitate starting and maintaining a business. The Minority Business-to-Business Directory includes listings from public and private sector businesses and agencies, minority and woman-owned business and small businesses. A delineation of ownership is provided with each listing. The Minority Business-to-Business Directory is a tool for the growth and expansion of minority and woman entrepreneurs and economic development in the African-American community.



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### 2. The Ability To Choose Your Electric Supplier...

Currently, your utility company provides all the services necessary to provide electricity to your home or business. Soon, you will have the **ability to choose** the company that supplies your electricity. This could mean even **greater savings**. You could also choose a supplier based on their environmental record, which may enable you to buy cleaner power.



Whether you choose to change suppliers, or choose to stay with your current supplier, **the decision will be yours**. New Jersey Energy Choice gives you the opportunity to exercise your right to choose.

### 3. The Ability To Choose Your Natural Gas Supplier, Too...

By the end of 1999, all residential customers will have the ability to choose the company that supplies their natural gas. Commercial and industrial customers already have the ability to choose, as do those residential customers participating in pilot programs.

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You do not *have* to choose a new supplier. The intent of the law is to give you more choices, not force you to switch. You can elect to remain with the same energy company that currently serves you. If you do not choose a new supplier, your current utility will continue to provide all aspects of your energy service as they do now, and you will still receive the electric rate reductions.



#### If you do choose a new supplier...

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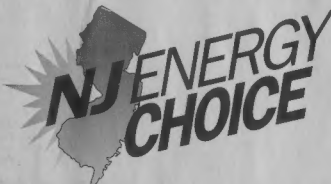
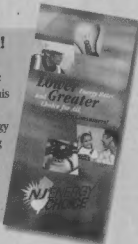
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## Local Briefs

### The City of Newark congratulates the men and women in blue

**NEWARK** — Eighty-eight Newark Police recruits ended grueling Academy training and took their place as Newark police officers at a graduation ceremony on July 6. The graduation ceremony for the 106th Police Recruit class will take place at the Sacred Heart Church at Sanford and South Orange Avenues in Newark.

Mayor Sharpe James and Police Director Joseph Santoro led the dignitaries who are to speak at the ceremony.

### Kaplan Educational Centers give free orientation

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Students and Parents are invited to Kaplan's free "College Prep" orientation workshop at New Brunswick High School on July 20 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Topics discussed will include computer tests, essays, college admissions, test-taking strategies, and the new PSAT Writing section. Many students raise their score 50 points by attending the workshop. Each family per person receives a free Newsweek/Kaplan "How to get into College" guide. The workshop is free, but seating is limited. Call (908) KAP-TEST to reserve a seat.

### Plainfield families can learn about Brazil by hosting

**PLAINFIELD** — Brazilian students who speak English and motivation will arrive next month to experience American life. Plainfield families willing to open their hearts and homes are invited to participate in the "Year in America (AYA)" program. Year in America (AYA) has brought families and foreign students, aged 15 to 18, for 17 years. With their own medical insurance and spending money, they attend local high school for a semester or two. To volunteer call (800) 322-4678 ext. 6078.

### New Jersey Chamber of Commerce selects new chairman

**TRENTON** — Alfred C. Koeppe, senior vice president of corporate services and external affairs for PSEG, has been elected the 1999-2000 chairman of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce. Koeppe, a resident of Skillman, replaces J. Joseph Semrad, chairman and CEO of Summit Bancorp, as chairman of the State Chamber.

### 'Black Troopers' silence ends

Continued from page 1

the U.S. Justice Department. The Northeast Region of the National Black Police Association has no confidence in anything put forth until the governor demonstrates her commitment to bringing someone in from the outside to rectify this problem, said Sgt. Delaney Davis, the NBPB's regional president.

"What the review team assembled by then-Attorney General Peter Verniero did is tell us what we already knew. They put oversight in the hands of the same organization that was supposed to be overseeing the State Police in the first place."

He called it putting a fox in the henhouse. "Didn't Peter Verniero defend the State Police in the Gloucester County case (in which Verniero appealed on the State Police's loss in the 1996 Superior Court decision that found Troopers were profiling, singling out minority motorists for stops and searches). Didn't he tell us that profiling didn't go on since 1967?"

Other recommendations include: "Restructuring the State Police's process for investigating Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action complaints from within the ranks, with direct supervision of the attorney general's office."

"Reforming the Internal Affairs process, also under supervision of the attorney general."

"Other recommendations related to recruitment, selection, promotion, performance evaluation, facilities review, provision of additional legal support and assistance, and the State Police discipline process."

The review team tried to go back to basics of New Jersey's state police mission, calling for the attorney general to consider mandating these changes in a way that would marry "some of its old traditions" with current requirements of a state-level law enforcement agency.

"Along with its modern day obligations, such as crime prevention and the apprehension of criminals, the division should be reallocated to its traditional mission of service as peace officer of the state."

The perpetrators of scandalous crime in the U.S. military, such as the Tailhook case, are relieved of command, the black trooper noted. In New Jersey, "They've relieved no one of command except Col. Williams," he said angrily. "I'm passionate about (the report) because it insults our intelligence."

## PMUA makes \$1 mil lease payment to city

**PLAINFIELD** — As the Plainfield Municipal Utilities Authority nears its second anniversary for providing full-scale services, officials say that it is serving an increasingly important role in "managing" interagency fiscal and service cooperation.

"That message was underscored by both City and PMUA officials as the Authority recently paid over \$1 million to the city as its annual lease obligation for the 110 miles of sanitary sewer lines serving Plainfield. The annual payment is a condition of the 1997 Interlocal Agreement that transferred responsibility for operations and maintenance of the City's solid waste and sanitary sewer systems to the PMUA. The \$1,062,000 payment for 1999 was derived from the Authority's operating revenues."

"As was planned, the PMUA has emerged as a key agency that is contributing to the welfare and future of the City," said Eric Watson, PMUA Executive Director. "This is a direct result of the continued development and improvement of our comprehensive environmental services as well as our

role in promoting interagency fiscal and service cooperation."

"This payment is just one example of the Authority's contributions to the City of Plainfield," said PMUA Board Chairman, Dr. Gerard Lee. "All residents will continue to benefit as the PMUA and the City work together to solve other issues such as rebuilding aging sewer systems, upgrading the Transfer Station, increasing recycling and reducing litter throughout the community. These are things that directly affect the quality of life in our City."

City Council liaison to the PMUA, Joseph Montgomery, said "As I see it, this \$1.06 million has started a big system support for Plainfield's future. I've always contended that the Municipal Utilities Authority could be an avenue for offset revenues for the City. As the PMUA picks up more clients along the way, they will surely be the City's biggest assets."

The PMUA is now inspecting and analyzing the condition of sewer lines and plans to begin line repairs and replacement critical areas. This effort is being coordinated with the City's



**Pictured are (l-r) PMUA executive director Eric Watson, PMUA chairman Dr. Gerard Lee, Plainfield City Council president Harold Mitchell, City Administrator Walter Mitchell, Joseph Montgomery, liaison to PMUA.**

plans for street repairs, thus reducing overall excavation costs and minimizing inconvenience to residents.

Watson also pointed out that the PMUA is pleased to be able to work together with other City agencies. Both the Plainfield Board of Education and the Housing Authority of Plainfield, for example, recently selected the PMUA's very competitive proposals to provide comprehensive solid waste services. They will be the authority's two largest

customers and represent an excellent example of the growing interagency cooperative spirit in Plainfield.

"The execution of contracts with the School Board and the Housing Authority is a fiscal milestone that serves and benefits all residents," Watson said. "These agencies will receive quality services at competitive prices. But more importantly, a lot more of the money paid for these services will stay in Plainfield and become a tax-offset."

## Fourteen Union County communities will share millions for downtowns

**ELIZABETH** — Fourteen Union County communities will share in the Freeholder Board's \$5 million "Downtown Union County" Grant Program. Freeholder Nicholas P. Scutari announced today. The grants, ranging from \$250,000 to \$500,000, are part of the "Downtown Union County" program that was first announced by Freeholder Scutari when he became Board Chairman in January.

These grants should act as catalysts, stimulating new growth in neglected areas and bringing investments by other entities into a town's business district. They come at a good time for small businesses in our downtowns," Scutari said. "In many municipalities, we have seen downtown shopping districts undergo a renaissance in the past years, as people head downtown, rather than to malls or highway stores, to shop. For some municipalities, a small push is all that is needed," he added.

Freeholder Linda Stender, Chair of the Economic Development Committee, said that many of the grants will trigger additional public and private

investment and be diverse in nature. She cited Roselle, Rahway, and Summit as examples. "The Borough of Roselle will use its grant to help spur a \$6 million retail project on a site that is which recently has seen the construction of a new train station and over \$15 million in other downtown investments, including the Union County Arts Center. And Summit will use its grant toward a \$4 million revitalization program within its Downtown Special Improvement District," Stender said.

Since 1992, 250 grassroots leaders have graduated from the NLI program. Each year, about 40 NLI individuals are selected from over 100 candidates who apply. The participants are trained. NLI Fellows, who receive training in community

## Grants available for neighborhood development projects

**MORRISTOWN** — Emerging neighborhood leaders are invited to apply to be eligible to receive a grant from the Neighborhood Leadership Initiative (NLI) for neighborhood-oriented projects in urban communities. The program, run by the Morristown-based Community Foundation of New Jersey, provides a nine-month series of leadership training workshops for new and emerging neighborhood-level leaders who want to make a difference in their communities.

Since 1992, 250 grassroots leaders have graduated from the NLI program. Each year, about 40 NLI individuals are selected from over 100 candidates who apply. The participants are trained. NLI Fellows, who receive training in community

recruitment, program design and grantwriting skills. From October - May, the Fellows meet one Saturday a month at corporate, church, and civic locations throughout the state. Upon completion of the program, NLI Fellows submit a grant application and are eligible to receive a grant of up to \$5,000 to launch a community improvement project in their local communities.

NLI is funded by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and foundations and companies committed to building communities from the inside out.

Applications to participate in the NLI Class of 2000 are available by calling the Neighborhood Leadership Initiative at (973) 267-5533.

## 1999 Union County Teen Arts Exhibit tours county

**UNION** — The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders is sponsoring the 1999 TEEN ARTS Touring Exhibit at the Borough of Roselle Council Chambers at 210 Chestnut Street in Roselle, from now until July 22. The public is invited to view the display during business hours.

The exhibit consists of 37 pieces of art selected from the 513 visual art works shown at the 1999 Union County TEEN ARTS Festival held in March at Union County College. The annual event is sponsored by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, Department of Economic Development.

"The County is very pleased to recognize and support these student artists. The exhibition connects young people to themselves, their culture and their community," said Mary P. Ruotolo, Freeholder Liaison to the Cultural and Heritage Programs Advisory Board.

The Teen Arts Program is coordinated by the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, Department of Economic Development, located by Union County College, and sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Sponsors and supporting agencies of the 1999 TEEN ARTS Program are: Union County Division of Parks and Recreation, Union County Prosecutor's Office, New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State, Elizabeth, Cranford and Roselle Boards of Education, Friends of Teen Arts through a grant from the New Jersey State Department of Education, Papermill Playhouse, and participating schools.

For assistance or services or more information, call the Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs (908) 558-2550, Relay Service Users call 1-800-852-7899.

## MSU works to strengthen early childhood education

**MONTCLAIR** — Montclair State University to the rescue. The state of New Jersey has asked MSU for its assistance in strengthening its initiative to provide high-quality early childhood education to three- and four-year-olds in state urban districts. MSU was asked to assist because of the strength of its early childhood curriculum.

Montclair State University President Dr. Susan A. Cole has been working with the office of Gov. Christine Todd Whitman to ensure that the full resources of the University are brought to bear on this serious problem.

In a letter to Dr. Nicholas Michell, dean of the College of Education and Human Services, Gov. Whitman asked for help in locating graduating seniors, recent graduates and alumni "who have an interest in helping to shape the next generation of New Jersey's youth," Michell said.

Michell said that Montclair State is perfectly positioned to help the state in its efforts.

"We have a long history of excellence in early childhood education and a strong commitment to the state's urban districts," Michell said. "We understand why to all we can to support the governor in this important initiative."

The New Jersey Department of Education and Human Services has prepared an informational leaflet indicating the urban district employment possibilities for those college and university graduates holding certificates in elementary and early childhood education. Salaries will range from \$25,000 - \$30,000 and scholarship support for additional education is available.

A copy of the leaflet may be obtained by calling Maria Adirint in the University's Center of Pedagogy at (973) 655-4262. Interested individuals may also check the state web site at [www.wpi.state.nj.us](http://www.wpi.state.nj.us) (scroll down, select "jobs" under "job seeker" to find "wanted preschool teachers"). Additionally, individuals can fax or email their resumes to Unified Child Care Agencies throughout the region.

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# Dance! Dance! Dance!

Gilda Rogers  
Staff Writer

Celebrating 40 years of dance, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater a principal resident affiliate with the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, need not look too far to acquire some of the brightest stars on the dance scene, thanks to Michele Burrell, 34, of Asbury Park.

She has given the kids from Asbury Park and neighboring communities an opportunity to perfect the art of dance at the Asbury Park Technical Academy of Dance. For Burrell, no makeshift facility in the basement of a church or at a community center would do.

"I felt our kids deserved a facility," said Burrell. A real dance studio. "There wasn't a school around this area for our kids. Our children are talented and need to be able to dance like everybody else."

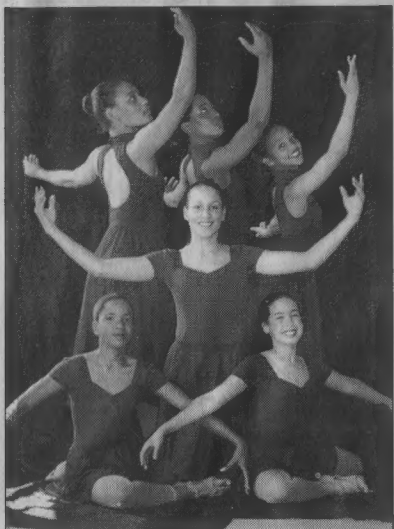
Burrell, who has taught dance for 17 years and honed her skills under the watchful eye of Madam Maria Swaboda in Spring Lake, teaches ballet, modern dance and jazz, along with Lisa Connell, who teaches tap. Besides being a full-service facility, not only catering to dance but also building self-esteem, one of the school's most attractive feature is its price-tag — \$28 a month for an hour of dance, and this price decreases if more than one child per family attends the school.

The school, which has been in existence for one year, has an Adopt A Dancer Program that the community has responded favorably to, partly because of the professionalism the school exudes. This program not only sponsors kids who want to dance and can't afford to, but it also insures that those students who have been accepted at well established dance companies, such as Alvin Ailey's summer program can attend.

Darby Brooks, 14, Neptune along with Alysha Ezell, 16, Asbury Park, are attending Ailey's summer program, despite the fee of nearly \$1000 thanks to the Adopt A Dancer Program. As a matter of fact, Glenn A. Sims, a native of Long Branch, has performed for the King of Morocco as a dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater since 1997. He truly is a reflection for these youngsters that with hard work and dedication dreams to dance in the big league can come true.

Major competitors in the Monmouth and Ocean County communities, the academy has never placed less than second and dancers like Sechita McNair, 19, Neptune, has been accepted at the Philadanco School of Dance in Philadelphia on a scholarship. Danielle Harris, 10, Wanamassa, expressed Burrell, is a powerhouse of a dancer, who dances with the older members of the school. While Amanda Morae, 12, Long Branch, also dances with the Ballet Hispanica in New York.

For more information about this progressive school of dance please telephone (732) 774-4557.



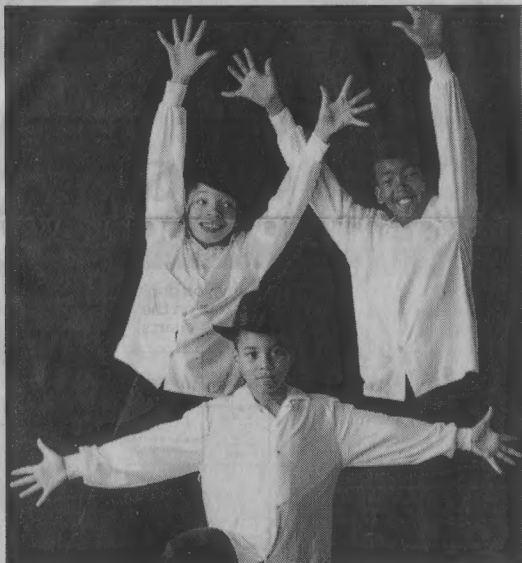
(Front row, l-r) Danielle Harris, Norma Santiago, and Amanda Morae. (Back row, l-r) Sechita McNair, Alysha Ezell and Darby Brooks



Judith Jamison  
Alvin Ailey Artistic Director



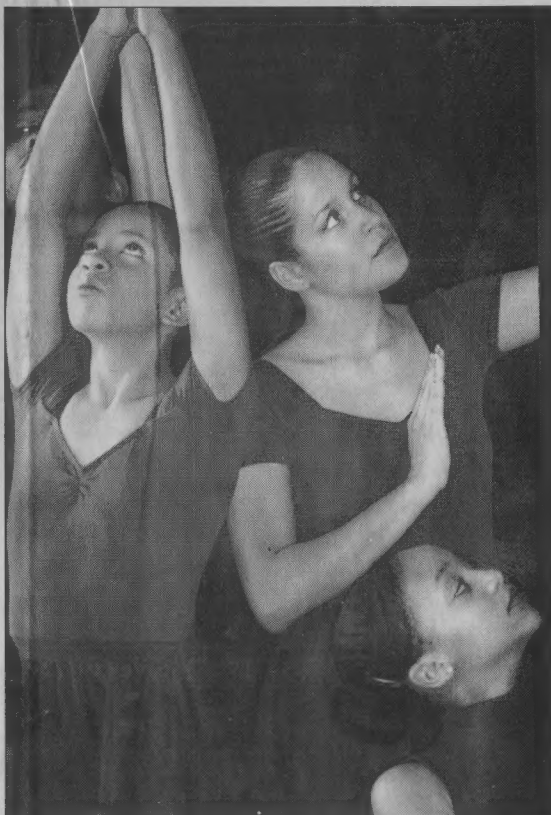
"Pretty in Pink" perform at the Asbury Park Technical Academy of Dance annual recital entitled "A Multicultural Experience."



(L-R) Frank Bailey III, Kyle Jackson and Raphael Thomas perform their dance routine called "Jump."



Ballet dancers perform "Vienna Blood Waltz" at the school's first annual recital.



Older dancers perform a moving tribute entitled "Amistad."

# CityNet 2000

## *Declare your independence.*

*"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."*

— Declaration of Independence

As City News Publications Inc., rightfully takes a place in the new millennium we proclaim an abrupt exaltation of the evil from our nations past. The horrific voices of discrimination, racism, sexism, medical disparities, and the miseducation of generations will not be welcomed in our illustrious 21st Century. — We do declare.

We hereby, proclaim our independence from any and all negative factors which have infiltrated our communities. We invite you to celebrate our freedom and reap from the seeds that we can harvest together. CityNet 2000 will lead the way as the drum major with a revolutionary 16-page weekly resource library all about our communities. From Paterson to Asbury Park, City News Publications will serve as the community center which unites the gospel of the church with the reformation of the education system; the voting drives in the political arena to the accumulation of wealth in urban communities. CityNet 2000 will truly reflect the spirit of the city and you are vital in keeping this spirit alive.

- If you are a thriving business in New Jersey or New York, tell us your story.
- If you direct a mentoring program which prepares our youth for the corporate world, tell us your story.
- If you are heading a research project to cure an epidemic, tell us your story.
- If you are a rising athlete, with the desire and discipline to train hard, tell us your story.
- If you are a religious center rebuilding our communities faith, tell us your story.
- If you are being treated unjust, unrighteously or inhumane, tell us your story.

"In order to lift ourselves and our communities, isn't it past time that we stopped letting the majority-community press speak for us and shape images of ourselves," stated William Reed, publisher of "Who's Who in Black Corporate America." "Too few of us have positive self-image in things black. Those that do have to organize processes to link-up black media and press with your families, neighborhoods and church congregations. These groups need to subscribe and read black newspapers every week. Utilizing our own media will help our self-image and social development."

So "Up You Mighty Race," for we will move forward by any means necessary because City News has a dream and you, the people of New Jersey, the heart of the community, is what will keep it alive.

Make sure your voice is heard and your stories are being told. Become a part of CityNet 2000. City News is depending on you to funnel information to us, so that we may curtail economic strife's, educational mishaps, and political misrepresentation.

I declare my commitment to the growth and development of our black and urban communities in the new millennium.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to City News Independence, PO Box 1774, Plainfield, NJ 07061 or fax to (908) 753-1036.

# Health Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

**KEARNY** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Pleasant Board of Health 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — NJ

**PLAINFIELD** — Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey Inc. offers free vitamin supplements to pregnant women. Call (908) 351-5384 for time and information

## THURSDAY, JULY 15

**RAHWAY** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Masonic Lafayette Lodge 5 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — NJ

**BERKLEY HEIGHTS** — The Runnels Specialized Hospital of Union County will hold a support meeting for those suffering from Alzheimer disease. Family Conference Room 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. — NJ

**ORANGE** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Hospital Center of Orange 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — NJ

**CLARK** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Glen Centaurus Building 3 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — NJ

## FRIDAY, JULY 16

**EAST BRUNSWICK** — The 24th Annual New Jersey Al-Anon Alliance Convention takes place at the Brunswick Hilton Hotel through July 18th. It's a statewide convention open for members of Alcoholics Anonymous. Call (973) 335-3445 for time and information

**WEST ORANGE** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the South Mountain Arena 12 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — NJ

## SUNDAY, JULY 18

**NUTLEY** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Nutley Chapter of the American Red Cross 3 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — NJ

## MONDAY, JULY 19

**MOUNTAINSIDE** — The Children's Specialized Hospital hosts its fourth Annual Golf Classic at the Montclair Golf Club in West Orange. Call (908) 301-5459 for information and time

## THURSDAY, JULY 22

**PLAINFIELD** — The American Red Cross of Greater Union County and Plainfield hold an open blood drive at the Greenbrook Manor 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — NJ

**CLARK** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the Glen Centaurus Building 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — NJ

**NEWARK** — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at the VFW District #4 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. — NJ

## FRIDAY, JULY 23

**MONTCLAIR** — The Eastern School of Acupuncture and Traditional Medicine holds a open house 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. — NJ

## TUESDAY, JULY 27

**EDISON** — JFK Medical Center offers a class in self-defense 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. — NJ

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

**JERSEY CITY** — Jersey City Medical Center will hold a support group meeting for breast cancer survivors at the hospital's conference room 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — NJ

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

**JERSEY CITY** — Jersey City Medical Center will hold a support group meeting for those suffering from breast cancer at the hospital's conference room 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — NJ

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

**JERSEY CITY** — The Jersey City Medical Center will hold a support group meeting for those surviving breast cancer at the hospital's conference room 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. — NJ

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

**EDISON** — JFK Medical Center offers a course in vaginal birth after cesarean section 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. — NJ

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

**EDISON** — JFK Medical Center offers a course in infant care for adoptive parents 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. — NJ

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**EDISON** — JFK Medical Center offers a course on grandparenting 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. — NJ

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

**CRANFORD** — The American Heart Association hosts "Step Out, Save Lives" Heart Walk at Union County College. Call (732) 821-2610 for time and information

# HeartBeat

## Clara Maass leads in cancer treatment

**BEI LEVILLE** — Clara Maass Medical Center is the first hospital in the state of New Jersey to receive a seal of approval from the American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO). Only 50 hospitals in the country have received this accreditation.

"It's a report card and we received an A," says Sandra Mazzeo, manager of the Medical Center's Department of Radiation Oncology. "Our hospital has taken part in this voluntary review to ensure that we are providing our patients with state-of-the-art treatment for cancer."

ACRO standards serve as a benchmark for radiation oncology departments at health care facilities around the country. In order to qualify for the accreditation, Clara Maass participated in a year-long review that

included a hospital inspection. The evaluation was conducted by board certified radiation oncologists and physicists from the ACRO. Clara Maass received excellent marks in several areas including the caliber of physicians, policies and procedures, equipment, treatment methods, facilities, and growth plans to keep abreast of technological advances in the field.

The Medical Center's Radiation Oncology Department is under the direction of Dr. Corinne Devereux, a radiation oncologist. The department offers a spectrum of services for patients with cancer. High-tech equipment includes two linear accelerators that produce cancer fighting beams; a simulator to map out the area of treatment; and a three-dimensional planning system that guides physicians in

targeting precise treatment sites.

Hypertension, a type of heart treatment, is used in combination with radiation therapy for resistant tumors. Clara Maass physicians also use radical prostatectomy to treat cancers of the prostate, lung and other sites. In the near future, the department will add a CT based virtual simulation that will allow the radiation oncologist to visualize the patient's body and map out treatment sites in real-time. This is a physical technique that will reduce the time it takes to treat patients while allowing greater precision.

"We're proud to offer patients this level of progressive care in a community setting," adds Mazzeo. Clara Maass Medical Center, an affiliate of the Saint Barnabas Health Care System, provides an unparalleled

continuum of care to residents of northern New Jersey. Located in Belleville, Clara Maass offers acute care services through Clara Maass Medical Center, skilled rehabilitation and long-term care through the Clara Maass Care Center at Belleville. Assisted living and long-term care through the Continuum Care Center at Clara Maass, home care through Jersey Care Home Health, and diagnostic, radiology services through Progressive Imaging Center.

Other centers in the network include the Women's Health Center, nuclear medicine. The Cancer Center at Clara Maass, diagnostic cardiac services including cardiac catheterization, same day surgery, and maternal/child health programs. For more information on Clara Maass please call 1-800-CLARA MAASS.

## Deepak Chopra to speak for Friends' Health Connection

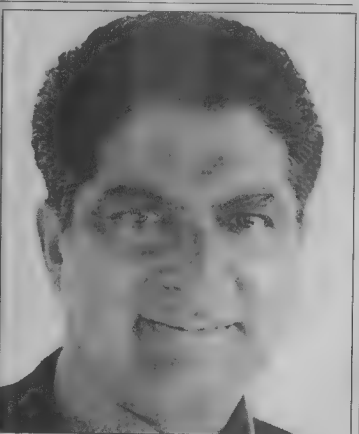
**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Friends' Health Connection will offer the first of a three part lecture series focusing on health and wellness issues, sponsored by First Bank. The lecturer, scheduled for Thursday, July 22 at 6:30 PM, is world renowned author Deepak Chopra, M.D. The event will be held at the War Memorial Building in Trenton, NJ and the

Deepak Chopra is one of the world's greatest leaders in the field of mind/body medicine. He is the author of more than 21 books, including "Ageless Body, Timeless Mind" and "The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success." He has also produced a number of highly acclaimed television and video programs for PBS including "Body, Mind and Soul: The Mystery and the Magic."

Through his creation of The Chopra Center for Well Being in La Jolla, California, Dr. Chopra is revolutionizing information about the crucial connection between body, mind, spirit and healing. His mission

of "bridging the technological miracles of the west with the wisdom of the east" remains his focus as he conducts seminars and workshops for health care professionals around the world. Dr. Chopra has been recognized as one of the top ten motivational speakers in the nation.

Friends' Health Connection is a non-profit organization that provides customized support and information to enrich the lives of individuals with health problems, their families and caregivers. The organization is affiliated with 20 hospitals and health centers throughout New Jersey. Rosemarie Black, executive director of Friends' Health Connection stated, "We are delighted to offer individuals with health problems and their caregivers an opportunity to learn coping skills, gain practical advice and share an evening of compassion and support." The event is being hosted by the Robert Wood Johnson Health Network. Tickets are available by calling 1-800-483-7436.



Author and motivational speaker Deepak Chopra

## Home-use tests for HIV can be inaccurate, FTC warns

**WASHINGTON** — If you've tested yourself at home for HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus, the virus that causes AIDS, you may want to do it again. According to the Federal Trade Commission, some home-use test kits can give users false information about their HIV status.

The FTC recently tested HIV test kits advertised and sold on the Internet for self diagnosis at home. In every case, the kits showed a negative result when used on a known HIV positive sample—that is, when they should have shown a positive result. Using one of these kits could give a person who might be infected with HIV the false impression that he or she is not infected.

Although Internet ads for these home-use kits may say they are for sale outside the U.S., only consumers in the U.S. have been able to purchase these kits. Some ads also imply that the kits have been approved by

the World Health Organization (WHO) or a similarly well known health organization, or that the home test kits have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Who does not approve or license HIV test kits. The FDA has not approved any home-use HIV test kit for sale in the U.S. However, the FDA has approved one HIV home collection test system for sale in the U.S.—the Home Access Express HIV-1 Test System Manufactured by Home Access Health Corporation. This system allows consumers to collect the sample in the privacy of their home, then requires that the sample be sent to a laboratory for analysis.

Safe, reliable HIV testing can be done only through a medical professional or a clinic, or through use of the Home Access Express HIV-1 Test System, says the FTC.

## Prudential enters individual long term care market

**NEWARK** — The Prudential Insurance Company of America recently announced it has entered the individual long term care insurance market in New Jersey with a competitively-priced, flexible product that offers innovative product features, including a monthly home care benefit, an emerging trends benefit, and automatic inflation protection.

Prudential, which has been in the group long term care business since 1966, has received regulatory approval to sell the product — Prudential Long Term Care Insurance — and has begun actively marketing it through its agency force.

The product is available locally through the following Prudential offices:

- North Central Jersey Agency, 30 Technology Drive, Warren, NJ John Toma, Managing Director 754-7576

- Clark Agency, 14 Commerce Drive, Cranford, NJ John Toma, Managing Director (908) 754-7576

- Edison Emerging Mkts. Agency, 1672 Highway 21, Edison, NJ John Savadine, Managing Director 387-2262

Prudential will also sell it through Prudential Select Brokerage, which uses independent life insurance producers to provide insurance products to the upscale marketplace, and Prudential Working Solutions, which provides voluntary benefit programs to individuals through employer groups and associations.

"An ever-increasing number of Americans will need long term care in

the future. In fact, surveys have shown that an estimated 50 percent of people over the age of 65 will need some type of long term care during their lifetimes," said Gail Holubinka, Prudential's director of Product Development, Long Term Care and former director of the New York State Partnership for Long Term Care. "Unfortunately, few people possess insurance that can help protect their financial independence and quality of life. Prudential Long Term Care Insurance offers flexible choices for receiving benefits and allows consumers to design policies around their personal needs."

Prudential Long Term Care Insurance provides a range of covered services that include institutional care, such as nursing home care, hospice care, respite care, and care in an assisted living facility — and home and community-based care — such as home health, personal and adult day care, and independent day services.

In addition, through its unique Emerging Trends Benefit, Prudential enables covered services to grow and change as new technologies and trends become available in the years ahead. Prudential's new product includes inflation protection as part of the standard benefit package.

This inclusion helps the customer prepare for the likelihood that long term care services, typically needed well into the future, will cost substantially more than they do today. The inflation protection feature allows the benefits to grow to help cover those costs.

## AHA to host walk for heart disease

**CRANFORD** — Heart disease is New Jersey's No. 1 killer and the No. 1 killer of women age 25 and older. Join close to 10,000 people from all walks of life throughout the tri-state area as they Step Out, Save Lives, to fight heart disease and stroke at the American Heart Association's American Heart Walk. You can join them in the fight by volunteering for 1999 American Heart Walk proudly presented by Aetna U.S. Healthcare. With close to 20 walksites in the tri-state area, including Union County American Heart Walk at Union County College in Cranford on Saturday, October 16, American Heart Walk locations need lots of volunteers.

The Union County American Heart Walk has a variety of volunteer needs, including performers and entertainers, DJ's, clown, walkers set-up and take down, check-in support, photography volunteers, publicity volunteers, as well as volunteers to help distribute food, beverages and other items at water stations or checkpoints. To volunteer or for information about the American Heart Association's 1999 Union County American Heart Walk, call your local American Heart Association office at 973-376-3636 or call 800-634-1AHA.

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Source: Target Market News, Inc. 1999

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City News takes a look at the health issues on the minds of African Americans in a special section titled

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# Az, Wednesday

July 14 — July 20, 1999

## Newark Black Film Festival Now Showing

**NEWARK** — Prior to the debut of the Newark Black Film Festival in 1974, the black experience had been relegated to the margins of the American cinema. Denied their point of view on film—the 20th century's most far-reaching and influential mode of communication the black identity had been subject to the rigid confines of pop culture stereotypes, if not excluded entirely from the dreamscape of America's big screen.

Throughout the two-and-a-half decades since its first screenings, the Newark Black Film Festival has remained a guiding force in the creation and maintenance of a progressive black cinema, sorting through the past to reclaim a forgotten film legacy.

## Movie Timetable

### A salute to Spike Lee

**NJIT**  
Time: July 14, 7pm  
Host: Richard Wesley  
Guest Speaker: To Be Announced  
Do The Right Thing  
Filmmaker: Spike Lee 1989,  
120 min, 16mm, Rated "R"



Spike Lee masterfully combines humor, drama and music in a technique used in his earlier films to expose the absurdity of racism. The film moves its colorful cast of characters through a minefield of sensations over the course of the hottest day of the year.

## Hair Piece—A Film For Nappy-Headed People

**The Newark Museum**  
Time: August 4, 7pm  
Filmmaker: Avaoka Chenuira  
1982, 10 min, VHS  
Animation Winner, 1989

This animated satire on black consciousness is from the standpoint of the straightening comb and other hair care devices.

## Sisters behind the camera

**NJIT**  
Time: July 7, 7pm  
Host: Gloria Hopkins Buck  
Guest Speaker: Julie Dash  
Daughters of the Dust  
Filmmaker: Julie Dash  
1991, 113 min, 35mm  
Shown in the 1992 season

Julie Dash's evocative film, at once poetic and inspirational, journeys into the past of South Carolina as a Sea Island Gullah family decides to make the great trek north to the Promised Land—in elegant costume to the pivotal role of Black women in modern African-American history and culture.

## A festival classic

**The Newark Museum**  
Time: July 21, 7pm  
Host: Theodore Johnson  
Guest Speaker: To Be Announced  
Nothing But a Man  
Filmmaker: Michael Roemer  
1964, 92 min., 16mm  
Shown in the 1993 season

Donald Boggs, a film historian, calls this film "One of the best black-oriented films of its era" and "A quietly intense study of a black man living in the South, refusing to know and suffering the consequences."

## We Love You Like a Rock-The Dixie Hummingbirds

**The Newark Museum**  
Time: August 4, 7pm  
Filmmaker: Ashley James and Ray Allen  
1964, 77min,  
Video Documentary Winner, 1995

A fascinating look behind the scenes with the Dixie Hummingbirds who have been one of the most important groups in gospel and a major influence in the development of African pop music and R&B.

# We Ought To Be In Movies

## BET announces third annual Pan-African Film Festival

**ENGLEWOOD** — Due to its success and critical acclaim the past two years, BET Movies/STARZ (BET Movies), the Black movie channel, has announced that it will once again feature award-winning films from Africa and the African Diaspora in its third Annual Pan-African Film Festival.

The festival, airing every Wednesday night at 8:00 p.m. (ET/PT) throughout July and August 1999, will consist of nine films. Returning to host is acclaimed actress CCH Pounder (Funny Valentines, Millennium, ER).

BET Movies has secured the rights to nine films for this year's festival:

- Dancehall Queen (Jamaica)
  - Faraf' Mother of the Dunes (Mali)
  - TGV (Senegal)
  - The Eleventh Commandment (France)
  - Identity Pieces (Congo)
  - Who Killed Pixote? (Brazil)
  - Speak Like A Child (United Kingdom)
  - Bitter Sugar (Guadeloupe)
  - Whirlwind (Burkina Faso)
- In Dancehall Queen, single mother Marcia (Audrey Reid) works as a street vendor to support her two daughters. Unfortunately, she also needs the financial assistance of "Uncle" Larry (Carl Davis), who demands repayments in the form of sex with Marcia's teenage daughter Tanya. After Marcia's wedding stall is threatened by the local thug, she devises a retaliatory plan.

Faraf' Mother of the Dunes comments upon the negative effects of European settlers on native African cultures while telling the inspiring tale of a woman determined to forge a better life for herself and her family.

From Senegal comes the intriguing film TGV. TGV is an express bus service, driven by Rambo (Makana Dou), between Dakar, Senegal and Conakry, Guinea.

Before setting off, Rambo and his passengers are warned that the trip may be dangerous because the Bassari have revolted on the Guinea border.

The Eleventh Commandment is a contemporary noirish drama set in Paris that



Acclaimed actress CCH Pounder returns to host BET Movies/Starz Third Annual Pan-African Film Festival airing every Wednesday night at 8:00 p.m. (ET/PT) through the months of July and August 1999.

revolves around a mysterious tie between a brutish French man and the troubled young man of mixed race who is following him.

Identities, disillusionment and segregation are the main themes of the award-winning detective comedy, Identity Pieces. Main Kongo (Gerard Escombe), an aging

Zairian King, resolves to search for his daughter Mwana (Dominique Mesa).

In 1980, impoverished working class child actor Fernando Ramos da Silva became the darling of Brazilian cinema after starring in the internationally acclaimed Pixote, a wrenching look at the plight of Rio de Janeiro street urchins forced into criminal lives.

With such an auspicious debut, a great career for Ramos Da Silva seemed inevitable. Unfortunately, fate and the rigidity of Brazil's social status had other, more tragic plans.

The biopic, Who Killed Pixote? tells his sorrowful tale and follows the grim sequence of events that led to his brutal, controversial murder by the police.

Lyrical and poignant, Speak Like A Child explores the unique bond of friend-

**"With such an auspicious debut, a great career for Ramos Da Silva seemed inevitable. Unfortunately, fate and the rigidity of Brazil's social status had other, more tragic plans."**

ship between three troubled teenagers. From the tiny West African republic of Burkina Faso comes the modern dramatic comedy Whirlwind.

The film takes a frank and controversial look at an exiled Lebanese family's involvement in the economic and personal corruption taking place in an unnamed West African country.

Bitter Sugar uses the device of a trial to reexamine the legendary figure of Ignace, the hero of Guadeloupe who fought Napoleon's armies to end slavery on the Caribbean island.

In creating this surreal "court of history," Guadeloupe-born filmmaker Christian Lara gives us a version of history that is not solely the account of the victor.

## Sundance acquires rights to the debut of Drylongso

**NEW YORK** — Sundance Channel, the premiere television destination for the best in new independent film, announced that it has acquired domestic pay television rights to Cauleen Smith's feature film debut, the vibrant and naturalistic drama, Drylongso.

"Drylongso" is a traditional African-American term, meaning "ordinary" or "same old thing." The film follows the everyday life of Pica (Toby Smith), a bright, talented and strong-willed college photography student.

Pica ignores the requirements of a 35mm class project, choosing instead to take hundreds of Polaroids of young African-American men, whom she sees as an endangered species.

She meets and befriends Toby (April Barnett), an affluent young woman who responds to her ex-boyfriend's physical abuse by disguising herself as a boy. Gradually, Pica's outlook on young men, violence and death grows deeper, a shift that is reflected in her photo project, which evolves into an installation that brings her neighborhood together.

In addition to Drylongso, the centerpiece of the festival, high lights include:

- A rare showing of Charles Burnett's seminal 1977 classic
- Killer of Sheep, the television premiere of St. Clair Bourne's documentary John Henrik Clarke

■ A Great and Mighty Walk, narrated by Wesley Snipes

■ Abderrahmane Sissako's millennial tale from Mali, Life on Earth

■ Keenan Ivory Wayans' gleeful send-up of '70s blackploitation, I'm Gonna Get You Sucka

Sundance Channel (www.sundancechannel.com), under the creative direction of Robert Redford brings television viewers nationwide the best of new independent features, as well as documentaries, shorts, animation and international cinema, running uncut and commercial-free 24 hours a day.

Sundance Channel operates independently of the not-for-profit Sundance Institute and the Sundance Film Festival, but shares the Sundance mission of supporting independent artists.



Drylongso (above and upper right) will make its world premiere on the Channel on Friday, August 6 1999, at 9:00 PM, as part of Sundance Channel's month long celebration of African and African-American filmmakers. "Representing Soul" Drylongso was directed, produced and edited by Cauleen Smith, who cowrote the screenplay with Salim Akil. It stars Toby Smith, April Barnett and Will Power. Life on Earth (lower right), Abderrahmane Sissako's documentary film explores how the residents of a tiny Malian village mark the eve of the millennium. Life on Earth will make its premiere on Friday, August 13 at 9:00 pm ET/PT and will also air on Monday, August 23 at 11:00 pm ET/PT.

## 25TH ANNUAL FAMILY FUN EVENT MONMOUTH COUNTY FAIR

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JULY 21, 22: 5 PM-11 PM  
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JULY 25 11 AM-6 PM

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### FREE ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDING -

Saturday Nite Feast, July 21 • 6:30pm & 8:30pm  
Let's Make a Deal on the Road Game Show, July 22 • 8:15pm  
The Verdict, July 23 • 8:30pm • New Power Soul, July 24 • 9pm  
Bugeeass Festival, July 25 • 12:30pm

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## African Heritage Movie Network



Photo by Andre B. Murray

The African Heritage Movie Network's hosts Oasie Davis (seated) and Ruby Dee (standing), are celebrating over fifty years of marriage. The African Heritage Movie Network is the only syndicated monthly movie series in television history which focuses on movies featuring African-American actors, producers and directors. The African Heritage Network airs in 92 markets across the country.

# Billboard

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

**MONTECLAIR** — Summerfun Theater, Inc. presents the adaptation of the classic Hans Christian Andersen story "The Emperor's New Clothes." Weiss Arts Center, 1 p.m. (973) 256-0578.

**NEWARK** — The Newark Black Film Festival continues at NJIT with a salute to filmmaker Spike Lee and the showing of "Do the Right Thing" 7 p.m. (973) 595-6550.

**NEW YORK** — Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. presents blues singers Mania Wright and Henry Singer, part of Lincoln Center's Midsummer Rights Swing 6:30 p.m. (212) 875-5000.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

**MONTECLAIR** — Broadway on the Hill presents the Tony Award-winning musical "Boyz n the City" at the Hill Theater on the campus of Montclair State University, 8 p.m. (973) 855-5112.

**NEW YORK** — The Film Society of Lincoln Center and the Independent Feature Project presents writer-director Desmond Harris' feature film "A Day in Black and White" Walter Reade Theater, 8:30 p.m. (212) 875-5000.

**ENGLEWOOD** — The John Harms Arts Center presents playwright Angela Logan's one woman show "Mother Figures" 8 p.m. (201) 567-3600.

**VERONA** — Essex County Park System presents Big Band Night featuring The Nelson Riddle Orchestra at Verona Park, part of Essex County Park System's Free Summer Concert Series, 7:30 p.m. (973) 268-3500.

**NEWARK** — The Essex County Park System presents "Jazz Under the Stars" featuring The Tina Turner Quartet. The concert is part of Essex County Park System's Free Summer Concert Series, Vauxhall Park, 7:30 p.m. (973) 268-3500.

**NEWARK** — Rutgers University Jazz Research Foundation Future Jazz: The Present Then and Now 7:30 p.m. Dana Library at Rutgers Newark, 183 University Ave. For information call (973) 353-5150.

FRIDAY, JULY 17

**NEWARK** — Newark Public Library's Sensations Poetry Series, 5 Washington Street, 11 a.m. For information call 733-7796.

**ENGLEWOOD** — The John Harms Arts Center presents The Platters and The Drifters 8 p.m. (201) 567-3600.

**WATCHUNG** — The Watchung Arts Center presents folk singer Rick Pallari, 8 p.m. (908) 752-9130.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

**NEWARK** — Newark Black Film Festival, 4261 Anniversary Celebration Film To Be Determined, 7 p.m. Billy Johnson Auditorium. For information (973) 595-6550.

**QUEENS, NY** — Los Angeles Productions presents The ATAT Arts Festival at Queens Theater in the Park, in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Call (212) 594-7275 for time and information.

FRIDAY, JULY 23

**NEWARK** — New Community Corporation's Priority Jazz Series, 7-11 p.m. For information 639-7848.

**NEW YORK** — Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, Inc. presents the 10th Birthday Celebration of the Decoy Dance featuring the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis. Part of Lincoln Center's Midsummer Rights Swing Series, 6:30 p.m. (212) 875-5000.

SATURDAY, JULY 24

**SAYREVILLE** — Club Bene presents legendary R&B group The Stylistics, 9 p.m. (732) 727-3000.

SUNDAY, JULY 25

**WAYNE** — William Patterson University presents live concerts by the William Patterson Summer Chorus at the Shea Center, 7:30 p.m. (973) 720-2956.

TUESDAY, JULY 27

**BROOKLYN, NY** — The Brooklyn Academy of Music and the City Parks Foundation presents the legendary R&B group The Bar-Kays, part of Concert in the Parks Series, Fort Greene Park, 7 p.m. (718) 636-4111.

THURSDAY, JULY 29

**ENGLEWOOD** — The John Harms Arts Center presents legendary singer Dionne Warwick, 8 p.m. (201) 567-3600.

**LITTLE FALLS** — Summerfun Theater, Inc. presents the play "Just So Stories." Weiss Arts Center, 1 p.m. (973) 256-0578.

FRIDAY, JULY 30

**BLOOMFIELD** — The Essex County Park System presents the jazz legend Chuck Mangione, part of Essex County Park System's Free Summer Concert Series, Brookdale Park, 7:30 p.m. (973) 268-3500.

**NEWARK** — Dept. of Neighborhood & Recreational Services, Friday Evening Swing/Outdoor Dance, Picnic & Concert, 5:30 - 8 p.m., Washington Park (between Washington & Broad Street). For information call (973) 733-6454.

**NEWARK** — New Community Corporation's Priority Jazz Series, 7-11 p.m. For information call (973) 639-7848.

## Essex County's Free Summer Concert Series

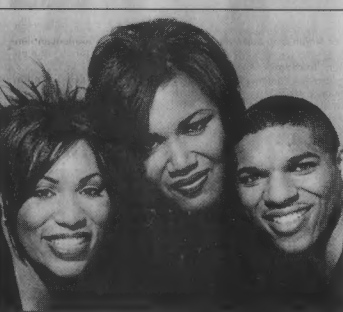


Chuck Mangione

July			
25	3:00 p.m.	New Jersey's Own Gospel Parade of Stars	Weequeah Park
30	7:30 p.m.	"Special Attraction" Chuck Mangione	Brookdale Park
August			
3	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Under the Stars featuring: The Richard Banks Quartet	Weequeah Park
6	7:30 p.m.	Three Decades of Musical Magic featuring: Smooth & The Dupres	Brookdale Park
13	7:30 p.m.	The Nicholas Martin Foundation presents: The Garden State Concert Band	Brookdale Park
17	7:30 p.m.	United States Military Academy Concert Band	Verona Park
19	7:30 p.m.	Contemporary Pop Night featuring: Eddy D' & Thriller	Brookdale Park
20	7:30 p.m.	Night of Nostalgia featuring: Magic Moments & Johnny Maestro & The Brooklyn Bridge	Brookdale Park
27	7:30 p.m.	Jump, Jive & Walk with New Power Soul & Shirley Alston Reeves/Former Lead Singer of the Shirelles	Brookdale Park
31	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Under the Stars featuring: Rasheema & Company Quintet	Orange Park
September			
3	7:30 p.m.	Hall of Fame Night: Steppin Out & The Drifters	Brookdale Park

## "Saturday Night Entertainment" at the Great Auditorium

The Great Auditorium, a 6,500 seat historic building with a world-famous pipe organ, 200 voice choir and world renowned guest speakers, located in Ocean Grove, is a place of worship as well as a shrine of entertainment. "Saturday Night Entertainment is just one of several events taking place at the Great Auditorium, including performances from several artists. Tickets for all events go on sale at the Great Auditorium Ticket Office Weekdays 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and performance days to intermission. Call 1-800-773-0097 or (732)988-0645. VISA and MASTERCARD accepted.



Anointed

July 31	7:00 p.m.	BIG SPLASH! Revd. 322 - Gen. Adm. \$18 Evening Concert: Ron Kenoly - Anointed. On the air from the Beach All Day. Beach Fun and Fellowship. Call WWOJ @ 1-888-NYC-Radio for information.
August 14	8:00 p.m.	Maureen Mc Govern - The Duke Ellington Orchestra Revd. 328 - Gen. Adm. \$23 100th Birthday Salute to Duke Ellington. Paul Mercer Ellington, Conductor.
September 4	7:30 p.m.	Doc-Wop 2 Revd. 325 - Gen. Adm. \$20 Shirley Alston Reeves, Former Lead Singer of the Shirelles, The Del Vikings, The Drifters, and The Platters.

## K-Ci & JoJo release their new album: "It's Real" classic Jodeci



Photo by Kevin Westenbergh



Whether singing of love or loss, joy or heartbreak, K-Ci & JoJo always make a place for the genuine.

The brothers broke big last year, thanks largely to the #1 smash hit "All My Life" from their multi-platinum debut album Love Always.

Many months of dizzying success, including a world tour, two Grammy awards and an American Music Award, only reaffirmed the duo's commitment to keeping it real.

Working with a variety of top flight producers/songwriters, such as Babyface, Rory Bennett, Ralph Stacey, Darryl Pearson, and Emanuel Ofori, K-Ci & JoJo ended up writing and producing more than half of their new album themselves, further expanding

their considerable talents. "I got my feet wet as a producer on It's Real," says JoJo. "It was a challenge, but one I wanted to get into."

As founding members of the multi-platinum-selling band Jodeci, K-Ci & JoJo have had a long experience with success, yet both agree that only now have they finally found their own unique voice. "On the last album we were still trying to find our sound is all about, and this album reflects that 100%."

The album's first single, "Tell Me It's Real," is a classic love ballad filled with lush harmonies and tender sentiments.

With its hushed intro and explosive chorus, "Hello Dacin'" addresses the longing for a distant lover, while "Here I Come Again," co-written by Babyface, is an equally moving ballad warning a cherished lover away from an abusive relationship.

Other songs like the intense "What Am I Gonna Do" and the sleek "I Wanna Make Love to You" reveal the flip sides of love, while "Makin' Me Say Goodbye"

and the achingly beautiful "How Long Must I Cry" are twin pleas to ease the pain of love gone wrong.

The album ends with a surprise, the upbeat "Mama's Song," which boasts lyrics by Anita Haley, K-Ci & JoJo's mother and a fine gospel singer in her own right.

"She was watching TV one day," recalls K-Ci, "and getting upset about all the crazy stuff in the world today. So she wrote the lyrics, we set them to music, and put the song on the album."

That kind of family connection should come as no surprise to those familiar with K-Ci & JoJo. The two Bailey brothers, originally from Charlotte, NC grew up in a home filled with music, family, love and life.

While still in their teens, they hooked up with DeVante and Delvin Swing, two friends from the local church choir.

At first, they drew attention locally as a gospel quartet, but later they began singing secular songs and decided to take their chances in the big city.

## "Heavy" making its way to stores

**NEW YORK, NY** — Uptown/Universal Records recently released multi-platinum rapper Heavy D's highly anticipated seventh album titled, Heavy on June 15th.

Heavy, Heavy D's most personal album to date, is already receiving critical accolades. The Source gives Heavy 4 (out of 5) ranking and calls the album "thoroughly satisfying."

The album's first single, "On Point," featuring Big Pun and Earthquake demonstrates Heavy D's growth and versatility. The "On Point" video has just been added to The BOX, BET and MTV.

Another stand-out track is the moody alt-rock meets triphop dream poem, "Dancing In The Middle Of The Night," which is guitar-fueled and lyrically adventurous.

Other tracks pair Heavy D with former Tribe Called Quest member Q-Tip ("Listen"), the Go-Groove Mob's Cee-Lo ("You Know"), and neo-soul singer Chaka DeLange ("Ask Heaven").

"Ask Heaven," one of two tracks on Heavy produced by Erick Sermon, is Heavy D's way of coming to terms with the experience of losing both of his brothers.

Since his 1987 debut, Heavy D, who was born Dwight Errington Myers in Jamaica and raised in Mount Vernon, NY, has emerged as an enduring popular rap icon, writing/producing/recording over 20 hit songs, and selling over 4 million albums to date.

The 3-time Grammy nominee's previous albums include: "Loyal" (Large (1987, Gold) Big Pun (1989, Platinum), Peaceful Journey (1991, Platinum), Blue Funk (1992, Gold), Nuttin' But Love (1994, Platinum), and Waterbeds (1997, Gold).

Heavy D recently appeared in



Photo by Sante D'Orazio

Multi-platinum rapper/actor Heavy D released his highly anticipated seventh album entitled, Heavy June 15, 1999.

The Eddie Murphy/Martin Lawrence comedy film, and will also make an appearance in The Cider House Rules, a film starring Delroy Lindo and Michael Caine.

Additionally, the multi-

entertainer is in the process of making a production deal with Bad Boy Entertainment. Upcoming promotional dates include: Atlanta, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and more.





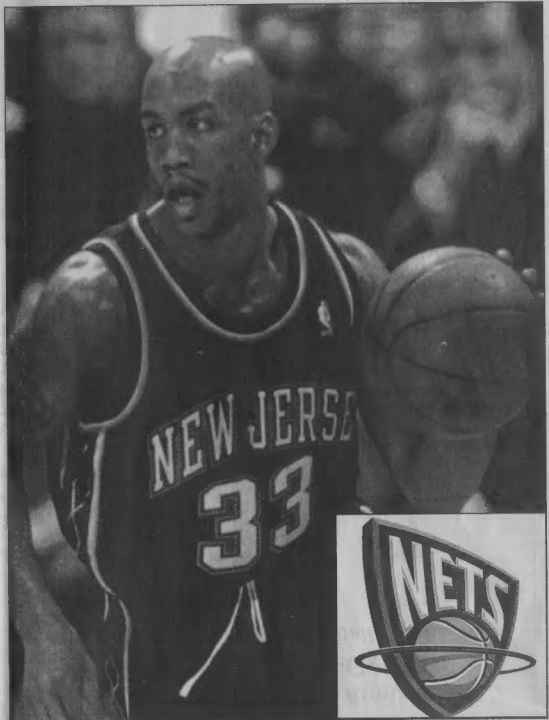


## Nets HoopZone back in full force

EAST RUTHERFORD — The New Jersey Nets HoopZone continues its 1999 summer tour making stops throughout New Jersey and the metropolitan area. The HoopZone, a traveling interactive basketball experience, provides fun for all ages through interactive displays and activities. Fans can practice their jump shot at two regulation size basketball hoops, dunk a basketball in the inflatable "Dunk Pit," bounce around in Sly's Den or see how you "Measure Up" to life-sized photos of Jayson Williams, Stephon Marbury and Keith Van Horn. For more information on the New Jersey Nets HoopZone, please contact the Nets Public Relations Department at 201-635-3187.

### NJ Nets HoopZone Summer Tour

<b>July 14</b> Ridgefield Summer Camp, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Ridgefield, NJ
<b>July 15</b> Kindercare Learning Center, 1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. Old Tappan, NJ
<b>July 16</b> Memorial BBA Tournament, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Plainfield, NJ
<b>July 17</b> 3rd Ann. Village Family Gathering, 11:30am - 3:30pm East Orange, NJ
<b>July 20</b> Boys & Girls Club of Wayne, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Wayne, NJ
<b>July 21</b> July Fest, 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Elizabeth, NJ
<b>July 23</b> FUNTASIA, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lakewood, NJ
<b>July 24</b> Jenkinson's Pavilion, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Point Pleasant, NJ
<b>July 27</b> Paramus Summer Camp, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Paramus, NJ
<b>July 29</b> Montclair State University B-Ball Camp 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Upper Montclair, NJ
<b>July 30</b> Jersey City Youth Summer Basketball Program 4 p.m. 8 p.m. Jersey City, NJ
<b>July 31</b> Celebrity Charity B-Ball, 3 p.m. 5 p.m. Teaneck, NJ



Kids can measure up to the life size photo of Nets guard Stephon Marbury.

## ED Butler: New Jersey's main eye for hoops talent

If you got a chance to attend last week's Adidas ABCD high school all-star basketball camp, it would be difficult not to notice the legions of scouts, talent evaluators, and prep experts in attendance. They were real easy to spot since they're the guys who show up every day, plainly dressed (i.e. not wearing clothing with a university's insignia plastered all over them) scribbling copious notes into their spiral-bound notebooks. In fact, it's hard not to respect these guys. They show up early, work long hours, and perform an invaluable service for the many colleges and universities who rely on their services.

It's worth noting that there's one other characteristic which most of the country's most well-known scouts share — they're white.

Ed Butler is no secret that despite the dominance of African American athletes on the fields and the courts of the college and professional ranks, black folks have struggled mightily to secure decision-making positions within the sports industry. A survey of the high school talent evaluation ranks reveals that the general lack of respect for the judgments and analytical skills of African Americans in the sporting world who extends the small community of gentlemen who fashion themselves as prep basketball talent experts.

Orange's Ed Butler has in many regards torn down many of the perceptual and physical barriers which currently inhibit black talent evaluators from being taken seriously by college coaches, athletic directors and industry newsmen. Butler, the proprietor of the EKB scouting service based in East Orange, has for the last 20 years administered a service which has come to be heavily relied on by college coaches all over the country, and athletes who otherwise may have been overlooked by those coaches were it not for the camp.

Butler's annual camp, which is held every spring, provides a showcase for players who for a variety of reasons (e.g. academic problems, lack of exposure, late bloomers) didn't get an opportunity to impress scouts during their regular seasons. Over the past several years, it has become a final pit stop for coaches on the recruiting trail with a spare scholarship or two who are in search of the proverbial diamond-in-the-rough. Butler estimates that he has helped well over 1500 players gain entry into colleges, and at least one former camp alumnus, Derrick Alston, made it all the way to the NBA where he played a couple of seasons for the Philadelphia 76ers.

Butler a product of Orange, played basketball at Orange High School where as a senior, he played on a team which was ranked #1 in New Jersey. After High School, Butler enrolled into St. John's University in Jamaica, Queens where he was a member of that school's basketball program. While there, Butler developed close ties with the St. John's coaching staff, and after graduating, he began scouting New Jersey talent on an informal basis. Butler was so effective that then St. John's assistant coach Carmine Calozetti suggested he start a recruiting service and the rest is history.

In terms of helping high school players get to the next level, Butler's first success story occurred in 1979 and involved a 6-9 point guard named Robert Cole. Though Cole enjoyed a very successful senior year and was named to several All-State teams, he had not received any serious scholarship offers. With the help of Butler, Cole eventually landed at Long Island University where he went on to become that school's all-time leading scorer.

The next time you attend an important high school basketball game, keep a watchful eye on the melanitic deficient crowd of clipboard holding scouts in attendance. However, if you look even more closely, you'll probably notice a lone black clipboard holding scout in the stands engaged in a determined search for hidden talent. If you give a 2-1 odds that the lone scout will no doubt be Orange's own Edward Butler.

## What's on tap?

Newark won't be the only place holding basketball camps. Here's a list of sites in the area for kids to live their hoop dreams

**LAWRENCEVILLE** — Don Harum's Net Results Basketball Camp takes place at Rider University. The camp is offered to boys 8 to 18. Open Week I begins July 18-22. Open Week II runs from July 25-29. Call (609) 896-5076 for information.

**WEST ORANGE/MADISON** — Roger Kindel's & Bob Belser's The Fundamental Basketball School. The camp will be open for boys and girls ages 6-16. It takes place at Fairleigh Dickinson University on July 5-9, July 12-16 and July 26-30 at West Orange High School. Call (973) 984-8129 for information.

**PISCATAWAY** — Kevin Bannon Basketball Camp takes place at the Rutgers Athletic Center. There will be open camp weeks to boys in grades 5-12 on July 5-9 and July 25-29. Team camps for boys in grades 8-12 run from August 1-5. Call (732) 445-4291 for information.

**LAWRENCEVILLE** — Rising Star Basketball Camp takes place at Rider University. The camp is open to girls ages 8-17. The open camps run from August 1-5 and team camps run from August 6-8. Call (609) 896-5383 for information.

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The 3rd Annual  
George "Gee-Gee" Brown  
Memorial Basketball Tournament



July 15 - July 18, 1999

at  
The Madison Avenue Basketball Court  
Corner of E. Second St. & Madison Ave.  
Plainfield, NJ (Adjacent to McDonalds)

**GAME TIMES**  
Thursday, July 15 at 4 p.m.  
Friday, July 16 (NJ Nets Hoop Zone)  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. games begin at 4 p.m.  
Saturday, July 17 at 12 noon  
Sunday, July 18 at 1 p.m.

Please Come In Peace or Don't Come At All!!  
Security & Police Will Be Present

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Memorial Basketball Tournament  
V.I.P. After-Party

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- Party Begins at 9 pm • Complimentary buffet until 10:30 pm • Police Security
- \$10.00 in advance • 23 & older • Proper Attire & ID Required • Come In Peace

